







# MEDALS

OF

## THE BRITISH ARMY,

AND HOW THEY WERE WON.

BY THOMAS CARTER,  
Author of "Curiosities of War, and Military Studies."

What is a ribbon worth to a soldier?  
Everything! Glory is priceless!  
SIR E. B. LYTON, BART.

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EGYPT, PENINSULA, WATERLOO, AND  
SOUTH AFRICA.

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DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF  
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RICHMOND, K.G.

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THE ACCOMPANYING PAGES.

FORMING THE SECOND SECTION OF

THE MEDALS OF THE BRITISH ARMY,

ARE,

(UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES STATED AT PAGE 10.)

DEDICATED

TO THE MEMORY OF

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RICHMOND, K.G.,

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# CONTENTS.

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## EGYPT, PENINSULA, WATERLOO, AND SOUTH AFRICA.

	PAGE.
Military Medals . . . . .	1
Ty Medal . . . . .	9
Trial to the Duke of Richmond . . . . .	11
Bt Sieges, and Actions for which the War Medal was granted . . . . .	15
Dion of the War Medal . . . . .	16
Tgyptian Campaign, 1801 . . . . .	16
Ain front of Mandora . . . . .	19
A near Alexandria . . . . .	20
B of Alexandria . . . . .	21
Turkish Medal for the Egyptian Campaign . . . . .	31
E of Maida . . . . .	32
Taida Medal . . . . .	34
B. of Roleia and Vimiera . . . . .	36
T Medal for these Actions . . . . .	42
S in Moore's Campaign . . . . .	43
A s at Sahagun and Benevente . . . . .	44
B of Corunna . . . . .	51
B of Talavera de la Reyna . . . . .	58
Talavera Medal . . . . .	66
M for the preceding Victories . . . . .	67
C of Martinique and Guadalupe . . . . .	69
B of Busaco . . . . .	72
B of Barrosa . . . . .	76
Tiarrosa Medal . . . . .	81
B of Fuentes D'Onor . . . . .	82
M for Busaco and Fuentes D'Onor . . . . .	87
Ba of Albuhera . . . . .	89
Thlbuhera Medal . . . . .	96
Cae of Java . . . . .	96
Thwa Medal . . . . .	104



# MEDALS

OF

## THE BRITISH ARMY.

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### EGYPT, PENINSULA, AND WATERLOO.

#### EARLY MILITARY MEDALS.

BEFORE proceeding to describe the War Medal and the services for which it was granted, it may be advisable to consider Military Medals generally, as far as particulars can be collected regarding them. The custom of striking medals to commemorate victories may be traced to the ancients, and the Moguls are believed to have granted them for civil and military services in the twelfth century; but it is only in modern times that they have been issued in order to be worn as personal decorations. Sir Nicholas Harris Nicholas, in his "History of the Orders of Knighthood of the British Empire," published in 1842, has given much valuable and interesting information regarding many of these decorations, both military and naval, although there has been quite an era in war medals since the publication of his work. It appears that no proof can be afforded of medals being conferred in England for services in the field, earlier than the time of Charles the First, who, in May, 1643, authorized a badge for such soldiers as might distinguish themselves in "forlorn hopes." This was directed to be



of silver, and by the warrant, dated from the Court at Oxford, 18th. May, 1643, it was ordered that the "Royal Image, and that of our dearest son, Prince Charles," should be contained thereon. This medal was to be worn on the *breast* of every man who should be certified by the Commanders in Chief to have done faithful service in the forlorn hope. It was also forbidden that any soldier should sell, or any one should buy or wear the badges, other than those on whom they were conferred, under such pain and punishment as a council of war might think fit to inflict. The commanders and wardens of the Mint were required to keep several registers of the names of those, and their county, for whom they were to give their certificate. Robert Welsh, or Walsh, an Irish gentleman, who commanded a troop of horse at the battle of Edgehill, on Sunday, the 23rd. of October, 1642, succeeded in recovering from the Parliamentary forces, the standard of the King's own regiment, taken by them, and also captured two pieces of cannon, the waggon belonging to the Earl of Essex. The following morning, the king, upon the top of Edgehill, knighted Mr. Walsh, who was presented to him with these trophies by Prince Rupert; and on the 1st. of June, 1643, a gold medal was ordered for this officer, the obverse to bear the royal figure and his son Prince Charles, the reverse to have the royal banner used in the above battle, to be inscribed "PER REGALE MANDATUM CAROLI REGIS HOC ASSIGNATUR ROBERTO WELCH MILITI." Sir Harris Nicholas states that a copy of the warrant, with a drawing of the medal, which is oval, having on one side the effigies of the king and of Prince Charles, inscribed CAR. REX. M. B. F. ET H. CAR. PRINCERS; and on the reverse the royal standard, in bend sinister, inscribed PER REGALE MANDATV' CAROLI REGIS HOC ASSIGNATUR ROB: WELCH MILITI, was recorded in the College of Arms, on the 14th. of August, 1685. This medal was carried on the breast, as appears by the knight's own narrative, printed for himself in 1679. The long parliament passed an act in 1649, enacting that the tenth of all prizes due to the Lord High Admiral, should be appropriated for medals or other rewards for eminent service at sea. This ordinance was repeated in the succeeding year, but as it

relates to *naval* services it is not necessary to dwell thereon, this work being confined to *military* medals.

After the defeat of the Scots at Dunbar, on the 3rd. of September, 1650, the House of Commons "ordered that it be referred to the committee of the army, to consider what medals may be prepared for officers and soldiers, that were in this service in Scotland, and set the proportions and the values of them, and their number, and present the estimate of them to the House." The house voted that the officers and men "which did this excellent service" should be presented with gold and silver medals. Simon, an eminent engraver of that day, was sent to Cromwell, to consult with him as to the device for this medal. Dr. Harris, in the appendix to his "Historical and Critical Account of Oliver Cromwell, page 538, has printed an original letter of Cromwell's to the parliament, (then in the possession of James Lamb, Esq., of Fairford, in Gloucestershire, and subsequently of John Raymond Barker, of the same place,) on Symond's (Simon) proceeding as above stated. The letter is highly characteristic, and is as follows:—

"For ye Honble the Comitteee for the Army, these.

"Gentl.,—It was not a little wonder to me to see that you should send Mr. Symonds so great a journey about a business importinge so little, as far as it relates to me, when, as if my poore opinion may not be rejected by you, I have to offer to that weh I thinke the most noble end, to witt, the commemoracon of that great mercie at Dunbar, and the gratuitie to the army, weh might better be expressed upon the meddal by engraving as on the one side the Parliamt, weh I heare was intended, and will do singularly well; so, on the other side, an army wth this inscription over the head of it, The Lord of Hosts, weh was or word that day: wherefore, if I may begg it as a favor from you, I most earnestly beseech you, if I may do it wth out offence, that it may be soe; and if you thinke not fitt to have it as I offer, you may alter it as you see cause, only I doe thinke I may truely say it will be verie thankfully acknowledged by me, if you will spare the having my effigies in it.

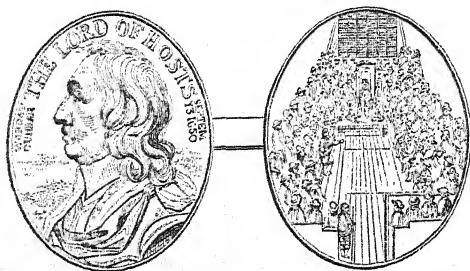
The gentlemans paynes and trouble hither have been verie great, and I shall make it my seconde suite unto you that you will please to conferr upon him that imploynt in yr service weh Nicholas Briott had before him; indeed, the man is ingenious and worthie of encouragemt. I may not presume much, but if at my request and for my sake he may obteyne this favor, I shall put it upon the accompt of my obligacons, weh are not a few, and I hope shal be found readie gratefully to acknowledge and to approve myself, Gentl.,

“Yor most reall servant,

“Edinburgh, 4th. of Feb., 1650-1.”

“O. CROMWELL.”

Cromwell's modesty was over-ruled, and the medal bears his bust. On the obverse is the head of Cromwell, profile; under the shoulder, Tho: Simon F.; the motto about the



head, WORD AT DUNBAR,—THE LORD OF HOSTS,—SEPTEMBER 3, 1650; behind the head a prospect of the battle. The reverse has the House of Commons sitting, as represented on the Parliament Great Seal, 1648, and also on that of the Commonwealth, 1651. It is remarkable also for Cromwell's likeness when Lieutenant-General. This is engraved in “The Medallick History of England,” and in “Simon's Medals and Coins.” The Dunbar medal is of two sizes,\* and is the first given generally to officers and men, as is the present practice, and no instance occurred of a general distribution of

\* Both are in the British Museum, which through the kindness of Edward Hawkins, Esq., I have examined; one is in gold and the other in silver; there is an aperture at the top for the ribbon. They are well worthy of inspection, and the engraving given is an accurate copy.

medals by the Sovereign's command until that for Waterloo was authorized.\*

In the two works immediately referred to there are engravings of several medals, probably worn by officers and soldiers as honorary badges; some contain the effigy of King Charles the First or Prince Rupert, or Sir Thomas Fairfax or his son, or the Earls of Essex, Manchester, or Dummerline, General Rossiter, or of other Parliamentary commanders; on the reverse were their names or arms, or a representation of the Parliament, or the words *MERUIT*, or *PRO RELIGIONE LIEGE ET PARLIAMENTO*, or *FOR KING AND PARLIAMENT*. It now seems impossible to discover the precise history of these medals. The victory of Naseby, on the 14th. of June, 1645, was commemorated by a silver-gilt medal, with a ring: on one side was the effigy of Sir Thomas Fairfax, inscribed, *THO: FAIRFAX MILES MILIT. PARL. DUX GEN.*; the reverse bore *MERUIT*, within a circle, and *POST HÆC MELIORA, 1645*. The medal of Parliament, which was distinct from the naval medal, before adverted to, cannot be described with certainty; but it is supposed to have had the effigies of the victorious generals on one side, and the Parliament on the other. It appears to have been instituted soon after that for Dunbar, as the House of Commons conferred it on Colonel Mackworth, by resolution dated the 27th. of August, 1651, with a chain of gold to the value of one hundred pounds. This officer was governor of Shrewsbury, and his service consisted in refusing to surrender the castle and garrison when summoned by the forces of the royalists.

With these exceptions the medals of the Commonwealth era appear to have been given for naval services against the Dutch, such distinctions being granted to Generals Blake and Monk, Vice-Admiral Penn, and Rear-Admiral Lawson,

\* It is recorded that when Napoleon surrendered himself on board the *Bellerophon*, he was received by a captain's detachment of the Royal Marines. After acknowledging the salute he minutely inspected the men, and having remarked that they were very fine and well appointed, the ex-emperor added, "are there none amongst them who have seen service?" Upon being told that nearly the whole of them had seen much service, he exclaimed, "What! and no marks of merit." The officer explained that it was not customary to confer medals, except upon officers of the highest ranks. The conversation terminated by Napoleon remarking "Such is not the way to excite or cherish the military virtues."

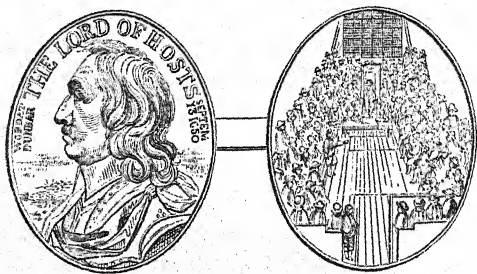
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and certain officers of the fleet. Blake's medal for the victory over the Dutch fleet off the Texel, in 1653, was purchased by William the Fourth for one hundred and fifty guineas. At this period the position of these officers was scarcely defined, for at times they appear to have fought on land as well as at sea.\*

The medals of succeeding reigns appear to have been confined to naval services: although medals were struck in commemoration of the victories of the great Duke of Marlborough, it is certain that they were not worn by either officers or soldiers. It was not so however with the naval service.

After the battle of Culloden, on the 16th. of April, 1746, a medal was struck, having on the obverse the head of the Duke of Cumberland; the reverse had a figure of Apollo, and a dragon pierced by an arrow, inscribed *ACTUM EST ILICET PERIIT*, and on the exergue, *PRÆL. Colod. AP. xvi, MDCCXLVI*. Although this medal has a ring, which would seem to imply that it was intended to be worn, there is no account of its having been conferred as an honorary badge on the officers and men serving under His Royal Highness.

Early in 1767 a system of honorary distinctions for long continued good behaviour was introduced into the 5th. Fusiliers, which was found to be productive of the best effect. These distinctions consisted of three classes of medals, to be worn, suspended by a ribbon, at a button-hole of the left lappel. The first, or lowest class, which was bestowed on such as had served irreproachably for seven years, was of gilt metal, bearing on one side the badge of the regiment, St. George and the Dragon, with the motto "*Quo fata vocant;*" and on the reverse, Vth. Foot, "*MERIT.*" The second was of

\* "Friday, March the 2nd., 1659-60. Resolved that commissions be granted under the Great Seal, unto General George Monk and General Edward Montagu, to be Generals and General, jointly and severally of the Fleet, for the next summer's expedition; and that the commissioners for the Great Seal do pass commissions to them under the Great Seal of England." The fiery Prince Rupert and the Duke of Albemarle also jointly commanded the fleet in 1666, in the engagements with the Dutch. At the siege of Barcelona, in 1705, (according to Carleton's Memoirs,) "the admirals forgot their element, and acted as general officers at land; they came every day from their ships with a body of men formed into companies, and commanded by captains and lieutenants of their own."

silver, bearing on one side the badge and motto, and on the other "Reward of fourteen years' military merit." The third was similar to the second, but was inscribed with the name of the individual whose conduct had earned it,—“A. B., for twenty-one years' good and faithful service as a soldier, had received from his commanding officers this honorable testimony of his merit.” These medals were bestowed only upon soldiers who, for the respective periods of seven, fourteen, or twenty-one years, had never incurred the censure of a court-martial. They were given by the commanding officer at the head of the assembled battalion; and if, which rarely happened, the owner of a medal subsequently forfeited his pretensions to enrolment among the men of merit, his medal was cut from his breast by the drum-major as publicly as he had been invested with it. Those who obtained the third, or twenty-one years' medal, had also an oval badge of the colour of the facings on the right breast, embroidered round with gold and silver wreaths, and inscribed in the centre with the word “MERIT” in gold letters.\* This may be considered as the

\* This “Order of Merit” having attracted the notice of the local military authorities, the commanding officer was called upon to explain under what regulations and arrangements it was conferred. The information produced the following letter:—

“Horse Guards, 20th. June, 1832.

“SIR,—I have had the honor to submit to the General Commanding in Chief your letter of the 4th. instant, with its enclosure, on the subject of the ‘Order of Merit’ existing in the 5th. Foot, and am directed to acquaint you, that the explanation afforded by Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland, shews that the order in question is dispensed under the most laudable regulations, and has been productive of the best effects, during the long period since its original establishment in the regiment.

“It is considered highly desirable, however, that both officer and soldier should, under all circumstances, be taught to expect professional honors from the Sovereign alone; and, under this impression, Lord Hill has been induced to recommend to the King to give the royal authority for the confirmation and continuance of this regimental badge of distinction, an arrangement which, while it bestows upon it legitimate existence, will, at the same time, no doubt enhance its value in the estimation of those on whom it is conferred.

“You will, therefore, be pleased to communicate this decision to Lieutenant-Colonel Sutherland, and acquaint him that he is at liberty to proceed in the distribution of the medals and badges as heretofore.

“I have, etc.,  
JOHN MACDONALD,  
Adjutant-General.”

“Lieutenant-General  
“Sir William Houstoun, G.C.B. & G.C.H.,  
“Commanding at Gibraltar.”

Other instances of medals having been presented by commanding officers to non-commissioned officers and privates might possibly be cited, but the custom has been prohibited for the reasons given in the above letter.

On the 30th. of June, 1814, certain soldiers of the 74th. were permitted



forerunner of the good conduct medal of a subsequent period, which will be described in its order of date. But the mode of conferring it was far superior, for a soldier could not at first obtain the latter until discharge, which was contrary to the original design of military decorations: this has since been remedied.

In 1794 a medal was bestowed by the Pope\* on certain officers of the 12th. Lancers. Shortly after the taking of Bastia, in Corsica, a portion of the above regiment proceeded to Italy, and landed at Civita Vecchia, where the conduct of the officers and men was such as to gain the notice of Pope Pius the Sixth, who ordered gold medals for the officers. Some of the officers proceeded to Rome, and were very graciously received. The number of medals bestowed amounted to twelve. On enquiry it appears that there is no specimen preserved in the British Museum.

A gold medal was presented by the Emperor of Germany, to each of the officers of the two squadrons of the 15th. Light Dragoons engaged in the action at Villiers-en-Couché, near Cambray, on the 24th. of April, 1794, when a handful of men attacked

by the *Commander-in-Chief* to wear silver medals, given to them by the regiment, on account of their merit and particular good conduct in the Peninsula.

\* The accompanying letter from the Pontiff's Secretary of State, Cardinal de Zelada, announced the honour to be conferred.

"From the Vatican, May 30th., 1794.

"The marked consideration which the Holy Father has always entertained, and never will cease to entertain, for the generous and illustrious English nation, induces him not to neglect the opportunity of giving a proof of it which is now afforded by the stay of a British regiment at Civita Vecchia. As His Holiness cannot but applaud the regular and praiseworthy conduct of the troops in question, he has determined to evince his entire satisfaction by presenting a gold medal to each of the officers, including General Sir James Stewart, Bart., and Colonel Erskine, though absent; and since these medals, twelve in number, are not, at the present moment, in readiness, nor can be provided before the departure of the regiment from Civita Vecchia, the Holy Father will be careful that they shall be sent, as soon as possible, to Sir John Cox Hipplesy, who will be pleased to transmit them to the respective officers, making them acquainted, at the same time, with the feelings by which His Holiness is animated, and with the lively desire which he entertains of manifesting on all occasions his unalterable regard, whether it be towards the nation in general, or towards every individual Englishman. In thus making known to Sir John Cox Hipplesy, member of the British Parliament, the dispositions of the Supreme Pontiff, the Cardinal de Zelada, Secretary of State, begs leave to add an offer of his own services and the assurances of his distinguished esteem."

the French, killed and wounded one thousand two hundred, and captured three pieces of cannon. This gallant charge prevented his Imperial Majesty, who was proceeding from Valenciennes to Catillon, from being taken prisoner. VILLIERS-EN-COUCHE was subsequently authorized for the guidons and appointments of this regiment. The celebrated Sir Robert Wilson, then a cornet in the 15th., was one of the eight officers who received this medal, which bore the following inscription,—“*Forti Britannico in Exercitii Federato ad Cernacum: xxiv Aprilis, 1794.*” His Majesty George the Third in 1798 permitted the recipients to wear these medals constantly with their uniforms. Only nine were struck, one being deposited in the imperial cabinet at Vienna. In 1800 crosses of the order of Maria Theresa were conferred on the eight officers, the doubt that this decoration could be granted to foreigners having been then overcome. The royal license to accept this additional honour was at once accorded.

Medals were issued by the East India Company for the Mysore War and Siege of Seringapatam, in 1799; these were permitted by The Queen to be worn in 1851, and will be described, with other Indian Medals, in the third section of this work.

The next military medal was given by the Grand Seignior for the campaign in Egypt, in 1801. This, together with the gold medals for services in the Peninsula and other parts during the protracted contest terminating with Waterloo, will be described in the accounts of *how they were won*.

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### THE WAR MEDAL.

WHEN the distribution of the Waterloo Medal both to officers and men took place, it was no wonder that the veterans who had fought through the several actions of the Peninsular war should desire to have a similar distinction. By a letter from the Duke of Wellington, dated Brussels, 13th. April, 1815, to His Royal Highness Field-Marshal the Duke of Kent, then Colonel of the Royals, it would appear that there was some general distinction intended to be conferred on the Peninsular army:—“When your Royal Highness

first communicated to me your desire that the 3rd. battalion Royals should wear a distinguishing badge for their services under my command, it was in the contemplation of His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, that the whole army which served in the Peninsula and in the South of France should wear one. I have not heard what has prevented His Royal Highness from carrying that intention into execution, but I will enquire, and I will recommend that the Royals shall have one, if it is not intended that one should be given to the whole army." This design appears to have been abandoned.

It has been shewn that during the reign of King Charles the First, and the period of the Commonwealth, the humblest soldier was eligible for a medal, and that for Waterloo is the first since that time which has been conferred by the crown on both officers and soldiers. Major Mackie, in a poem entitled "Britannia Ingrata," made a poetical appeal in behalf of the gallant Peninsular army. There were volumes of correspondence in the several military journals, in which the grievances of veterans were set forth; officers who had passed through the fields of Corunna, Talavera, Busaco, Salamanca,\* and other sanguinary actions, felt they deserved the red and blue-edged ribbon as well as the more fortunate Waterloo man. Even the badge of merit was defined, some thinking that it should be a cross formed of the metal of guns taken during the war.

The hardship continued for years, and there is no doubt that the Duke of Richmond in his place in parliament, aided by public opinion, was mainly instrumental in obtaining the desired honour. While these pages were in progress the late Duke had granted permission for this section to be dedicated to him, and it is but recently that his country has had to regret his loss. So sensible were the war officers of his

\* Major Mackie was not the only one who put this grievance into verse, for Colonel (now Lieutenant-General) Sir Philip Bainbrigge, K.C.B., when serving on the staff in Ireland, as Deputy-Quartermaster-General in Dublin, wrote a song for the thirty-fourth anniversary of the battle of Salamanca, fought on the 22nd. of July, 1812, commemorative of that victory, the last stanza of which well describes the feeling of the undecorated veterans. Sir Philip subsequently received the long-deferred war medal, with clasps for Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, and Toulouse.

exertions in their cause, that a testimonial was subscribed for and presented to His Grace at a grand dinner at Willis's Rooms, on Saturday, the 21st. of June, 1851. The chair was occupied by Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Lord Saltoun, K.C.B., G.C.H., and the vice-chair by Sir Graham Eden Hamond, Bart., K.C.B. It was a most interesting gathering, and many of the Peninsular veterans were present. The testimonial was exhibited on the occasion, but it was in an unfinished state, some of the figures in relief being represented by plaster models. It was placed on an ebony triangular pedestal, in a recess behind the chairman. The whole was to be completed by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, in solid silver, the value of the plate being about fifteen hundred guineas. The inscription was as follows:—"Presented on June 21st., 1851, 38th. Anniversary of the Battle of Vittoria, to His Grace the Duke of Richmond, Lennox, and Aubigny, K.G., by the Recipients of the War Medal, in grateful remembrance of his long and unwearied exertion in their behalf, as a token of the Admiration, Respect, and Esteem, from his humbler brethren in Arms, who successfully aided in defending their Island Home throughout a long and sanguinary war, in which they gained a series of resplendent victories, that led to the capture of Madrid, Paris, Washington, and finally to an honourable and lasting peace."

His Grace's first commission as ensign in the 8th. garrison battalion, bears date the 9th. of June, 1809, and on the 21st. of June of the following year, he was promoted Lieutenant in the 13th. Dragoons, and on the 9th. of July, 1812, was appointed to a company in the 92nd. regiment. On the 8th. of April, 1813, His Grace became a captain in the 52nd. Light Infantry; and on the 15th. of June, 1815, received the brevet rank of major, and that of lieutenant-colonel on the 25th. of July, 1816. He joined the army in Portugal in July, 1810, as aide-de-camp to the Duke of Wellington, with whom he remained until the close of the war in 1814, and was present in all the skirmishes, affairs, general actions, and sieges, which took place during that period, amongst which were the battles of Busaco and Fuentes d'Onor, storming of Ciudad Rodrigo, when he placed himself in the

ranks of the 52nd. regiment with the stormers, Badajoz, battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, and the Pyrenees; the first storming of St. Sebastian, action at Vera, and battle of Orthes. At the last-mentioned battle, having left in January, 1814, the Duke of Wellington's staff, in order to obtain a practical knowledge of regimental duty in the field, he served with the first battalion of his regiment, the 52nd. Light Infantry, and took command of his company, on which occasion he was severely wounded in the chest by a musket-ball, which was never extracted. He was sent home with the duplicate despatches of the battle of Salamanca and the capture of Astorga by the Spaniards, and with the despatches of Vera and the entrance of the army into France. During the campaign in the Netherlands he was aide-de-camp to the Prince of Orange, (the late King of the Netherlands,) and was present with him at the battles of Quatre Bras and Waterloo. After the Prince of Orange was wounded at Waterloo, he joined the Duke of Wellington's staff as aide-de-camp, and remained with that illustrious commander during the rest of the campaign. For his military services he had received the silver war medal and eight clasps for Busaco, Fuentes d' Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, and Orthes. His Grace was, with the exception of the Marquis of Exeter, the senior Knight of the Garter, having received that illustrious order in 1828. He was Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of Sussex; Vice-Admiral of the coast of Sussex; Colonel of the Royal Sussex Artillery and Light Infantry Battalions of the Militia, (which His Grace had held from December, 1819;)\* was an aide-de-camp

\* The following regimental order was issued by the commanding officer of the Royal Sussex Light Infantry Militia, on the Duke's death.

"South Camp, Aldershot, 29th. October, 1860.

"In announcing to the Regiment the irreparable loss it has sustained in the death of their late Colonel, the Duke of Richmond, K.G., the Commanding Officer cannot refrain from recalling to the minds of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men, the many noble, excellent, and amiable qualities for which their late deeply honoured Chief was so eminent, which during life rendered him loved and respected by all, and which will ever cause his memory to be revered.

"At an early age the Earl of March entered the Army, and the Medals you have so often seen on his breast, bear testimony to the many dangers and privations he encountered, and how gallantly he met them for his country's honour. Whether serving on the personal Staff

to the Queen; High Steward of Chichester; Chancellor of Marischall College, Aberdeen, and Hereditary Constable of Inverness Castle. On inheriting the larger estates of his maternal uncle, the last Duke of Gordon, he assumed, in 1836, the name of Gordon by royal letters patent, for himself and all his then surviving issue. His decease occurred on the 21st. of October, 1860, and his remains were interred in the family vault of Chichester Cathedral, the funeral, according to his request, being strictly private. There was a large concourse of spectators, for the Duke had by his kindliness of manner won the esteem of his countrymen, and since the death of the Duke of Wellington, no nobleman has been more universally regretted.

The Queen fully repaired the omission of her predecessors, by conferring the boon so long and anxiously coveted, and on the 1st. of June, 1847, (the anniversary of a glorious naval victory,) the following general order was issued, which, it is almost superfluous to add, was read with delight by the surviving Peninsular veterans.

“Horse Guards, 1st. June, 1847.

“Her Majesty having been graciously pleased to command that a Medal should be struck to record the Services of Her Fleets and Armies during the Wars commencing in 1793, and ending in 1814, and that one should be conferred upon every Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, and Soldier of the Army, who was present in any Battle or Siege, to

of the Illustrious Wellington, or with his company in the 52nd. Light Infantry, *he always did his duty.* His constant visit to the Sick in Hospital and his total abnegation of self, will be remembered by all who knew him. In his latter years, the Regiment can speak to the energy of which he was capable, and the deep interest he always felt in its welfare and prosperity. The Commanding Officer feels confident that there is not a man in the Regiment who will not proudly speak to the high and generous character of their lamented Colonel; and he feels sure he will live in the affections of all those who have served under him, and trusts all will strive to perform their duty, and thus do honour to the memory of one who was never known to have neglected his.

“The Funeral of the lamented Duke is appointed to take place tomorrow, the 30th. instant, at Chichester, from which date the Officers will continue to wear Black Crape on the left arm for one month; the Chaco Ornaments, Waist Plates, Sword Knots, and Tassel of the Regimental Colour to be covered with Black Crape, for the first fourteen days of the same period.

(By Order)

(Signed) W. FULLER,

“Captain and Adjutant, Royal Sussex Light Infantry Militia.”

commemorate which Medals had been struck by command of Her Majesty's Royal Predecessors, and had been distributed to the General or Superior Officers of the several Armies and Corps of Troops engaged, in conformity with the Regulations of the Service at that time in force;—General and other Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, who consider that they have claims to receive this mark of their Sovereign's gracious recollection of their Services, and of her desire to record the same, are each to apply to the Secretary of the Board of General Officers, Whitehall, London, and to send in writing to the same Officer, a statement of his claim, for what Action, at what period of time, and the Names of the Persons, or the titles of the Documents by which the Claim can be proved.

"These Claims are to be sent, by General Officers having such Claims, through the hands of the Commander-in-Chief of the Army:—

"The Staff Officers having such Claims, through the General Officers under whom they served, if alive;—if not alive, through the Adjutant-General of the Army:—

"Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers of Regiments, Battalions, and Detachments, through the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Battalion, or Detachment, at the time, if still alive.\* This will be known by enquiry at the Agents of the Regiments resident in London. If such Commanding Officer should not be alive, the Application, in writing, must be sent through the Adjutant-General of the Army.

"The Board of General Officers is hereby, by Her Majesty's Command, directed to take into consideration,—to investigate the facts stated in each of these several applications,—and to report to the Commander-in-Chief upon the same, for the information of Her Majesty, and to enable those commanded by Her Majesty to deliver to the Claimants the Medals accordingly.

\* The following circumstance will shew the lengthened period which had elapsed. An old officer, who had had a claim preferred through him, called at the Horse Guards, and the author of this work had to show him the returns, the aged veteran being uncertain whether he himself was in the particular action, (having been in so many and at such a distant date,) for which the applicant claimed a medal, in the manner above described.

"The Adjutant-General, and the Military Secretary of the Commander-in-Chief will transmit to the Secretary of the Board of General Officers, such information as they may have been able to acquire, to assist in the investigations which the Board will have to make.

"The Commander-in-Chief has been required to desire, that the Board of General Officers will have Alphabetical Lists made out of the names of the Claimants to one of these Medals, with his Rank, and the name of the particular Battle or Siege for which he claims to receive the same inserted in the Margin,—and at which the Board of General Officers may consider that he was present.

"The occasions for which Medals have been granted by the Sovereign, are specified in the annexed page for general information and guidance, as at page 73 of the Annual Army List.

By Command of Field Marshal,

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Commander-in-Chief,

JOHN MACDONALD, Adjutant-General."

"Honorary Distinctions have been granted to Officers in Commemoration of their Services in the following Battles or Actions:—Maida, July 4th., 1806; Roleia, August 17th., 1808; Vimiera, August 21st., 1808; Sahagun, Benevente, etc., December, 1808, and January, 1809; Corunna, January, 16th., 1809; Martinique, February, 1809; Talavera, July 27th. and 28th., 1809; Guadaloupe, January and February, 1810; Busaco, September 27th., 1810; Barrosa, March 5th., 1811; Fuentes d' Onor, May 5th., 1811; Albuhera, May 16th., 1811; Java, August and September, 1811; Ciudad Rodrigo, January, 1812; Badajoz, March 17th. and April 6th., 1812; Salamanca, July 22nd., 1812; Fort Detroit, America, August, 1812; Vittoria, June 21st., 1813; Pyrenees, July 28th. to August 2nd., 1813; St. Sebastian, August and September, 1813; Chateauguay, America, October 26th., 1813; Nivelle, November 10th., 1813; Chrystler's Farm, America, November 11th., 1813; Nive, December 9th. to 13th., 1813; Orthes, February 27th., 1814; Toulouse, April 10th., 1814."

A similar order was issued regarding naval services; these



commenced with Lord Howe's action of the 1st. of June, 1794, but the earliest military service thus decorated was the campaign in Egypt, 1801, a general order, dated the 12th. of February, 1850, being issued, by which the war medal was to be conferred on the surviving Egyptian veterans; and if they had already received it, an additional bar, bearing the word EGYPT, was to be granted.

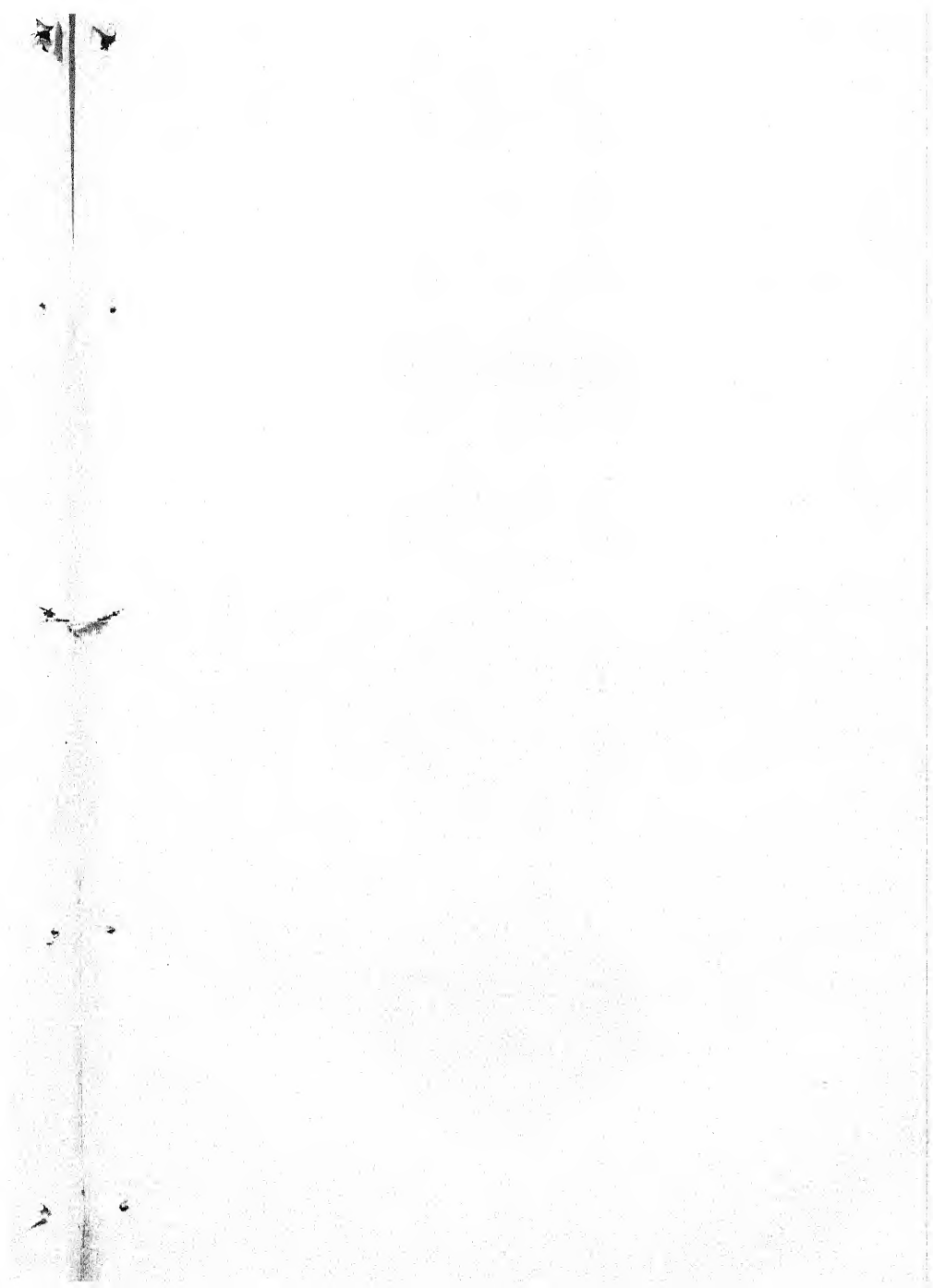
The WAR MEDAL has on the obverse the head of the Queen, with the date 1848; and on the reverse Her Majesty, as the representative of the country or people, is in the act of crowning with a laurel wreath the Duke of Wellington, in a kneeling attitude, as emblematic of the army. In the exergue is engraved 1793-1814, (the former date only applying to the navy,) and by the side of the dais is the British lion. The inscription is TO THE BRITISH ARMY. In the illustration only a few of the bars are given, but all the services enumerated in the foregoing list were of course commemorated by their names being placed on the bars. The rank and names of recipients were engraved round the edge of the medal. The ribbon is red, with blue edges.

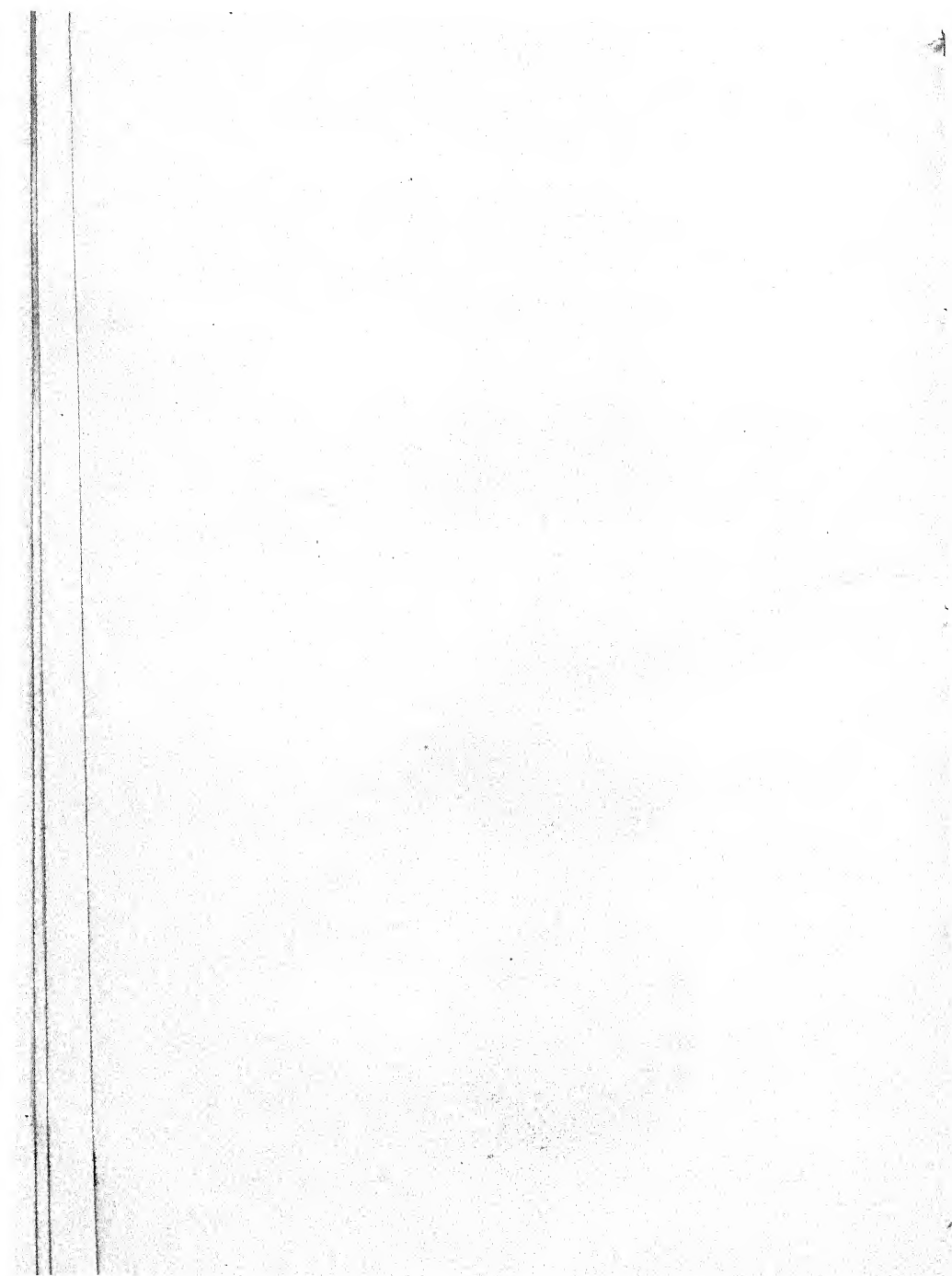
The first service then, in the order of date, is

### THE EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGN, 1801.

In the year 1800, a French army, which had been designated the "Army of the East," held Egypt in subjection, and the British government anticipating that India was the meditated scene of conquest, determined to employ the disposable force of the kingdom in relieving Egypt from her invaders. After experiencing much severe weather at sea, the fleet arrived at Malta, where the troops landed, and the abundance of fresh provisions afforded by the inhabitants was most welcome. Leaving that island on the 20th. of December, 1800, the armament sailed to Marmorice, in Asiatic Turkey, where the fleet anchored in a spacious bay environed by mountains, whilst gun-boats were being procured for the expedition, horses for the cavalry, and a plan of co-operation was in course of arrangement with the Turks.

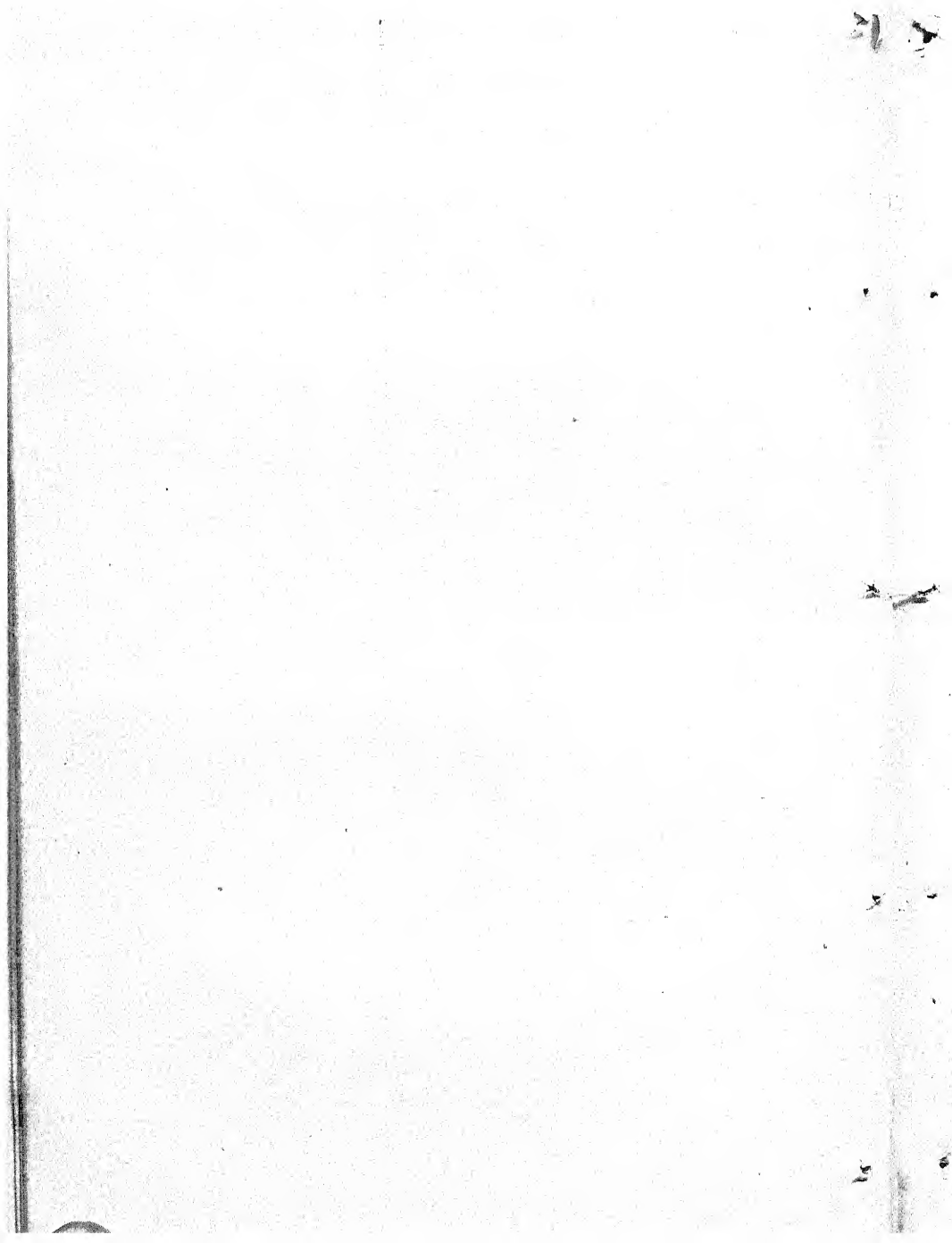
This force was under the command of the veteran General







THE WAR MEDAL.



Sir Ralph Abercromby, K.B., and about six thousand men from India and the Cape of Good Hope, under Major-General Baird, so celebrated for his conduct at Seringapatam, were appointed to co-operate.

At this period the British forces were brigaded as follows:—Guards, Major-General the Honourable George J. Ludlow, First Royals, 54th., two battalions, and 92nd, Major-General (afterwards Sir Eyre) Coote; 8th., 13th., 18th., and 90th., Major-General (afterwards Sir John) Cradock; 2nd., 50th., and 79th., Major-General Lord Cavan; 30th., 44th., and 89th., Brigadier-General (afterwards Sir John) Doyle; Minorca, De Rolle's, and Dillon's regiments, (since disbanded,) Major-General John Stuart, (afterwards Count of Maida.) The reserve consisted of detachments of 11th. and Hompesch's dragoons, 40th., flank companies, 23rd., 28th., 42nd., 58th., and Corsican Rangers, (since disbanded,) Major-General (afterwards Sir John) Moore; 12th. and 26th. dragoons, Major-General the Honourable Edward Finch; artillery and pioneers, Brigadier-General Lawson.

After some delay at Marmorice, in expectation of receiving reinforcements of Greeks and Turks, the expedition proceeded to its destination, and on the 2nd. of March, 1801, anchored in the Bay of Aboukir, eastward of Alexandria, when, notwithstanding all the exertions of the navy, under the orders of Admiral Lord Keith, the necessary arrangements for landing the troops could not be effected until a week afterwards, owing to unfavourable weather, and other obstructions. A landing was however effected on the 8th. of March. On that morning a rocket gave the signal for one hundred and fifty boats, laden with five thousand men, to approach the shore, and the next moment the deep murmur of a thousand oars was heard urging forward the flower of a brave army, to engage in an enterprise of a most arduous character. As they approached the shore, the French assailed them with a tempest of bullets, which cut the surface of the water into deep furrows, and sank several of the boats. Yet pressing onward with redoubled ardour, the undaunted Britons gained the shore, and instantly leaping out of the boats, rushed forward to encounter their numerous antagonists.

The troops forming the first division, consisting of the reserve, under the command of Major-General (afterwards Sir John) Moore; the brigade of Guards, under the Honourable Major-General Ludlow; and a portion of the first brigade, under Major-General Coote, got into the boats early in the morning; they had generally about six miles to row, and did not reach the point of landing until ten o'clock. The front of disembarkation was narrow, and a hill, which commanded the whole, seemed almost inaccessible. Notwithstanding their being exposed to a very severe cannonade, and under the fire of grape shot, the troops made good their landing, ascended the hill, and forced the enemy to retire, leaving behind him seven pieces of artillery, together with a number of horses. The troops that ascended the hill in the face of dangers and difficulties sufficient to intimidate ordinary men, consisted of the 23rd. Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and the four flank companies of the 40th. regiment, under the command of Colonel Spencer, whose conduct was specially commended in the despatches; in which also the good order of the disembarkation of the 28th. and 42nd. regiments, under the command of Brigadier-General Oakes was particularly noticed. Whilst these regiments formed and mounted the position, the Foot Guards and 58th. regiment prolonged the attack, the Royals and the 54th. pushing forward to sustain their gallant comrades. A column of French infantry advancing through a hollow way with fixed bayonets against the left flank of the Foot Guards, encountered the two latter regiments; the British advanced, when their opponents hesitated, fired a volley, and then retreated. The disembarkation of the army continued on the 8th. and the day following.\*

\* As the soldiers were burying a Highlander of the 42nd. regiment, who was supposed to be dead, Captain David Stewart, of Garth, requested them to take him out of the grave, and carry him to the surgeon; he soon recovered of a swoon, his wound was cured, and he resumed his duty shortly afterwards. It is to be hoped that this soldier did not evince his gratitude like the private of the 31st. regiment, mentioned in the following anecdote:—In 1799, the 31st. regiment was serving in Holland, and at Egmont-op-Zee crossed bayonets with the French regiment bearing the same number; a ball fired during the retreat of the latter, passed through the jaws of a soldier of the former, named Robert Hullock; in the course of the afternoon he was buried in the sand-hill where he had fallen, by a soldier of his regiment, named John Carnes. During the night Hullock having been but lightly covered with sand, crept out and crawled to a picket of his corps posted near. He was sent to hospital, recovered, and was serving with his regiment in Malta, in 1809. His face having been

On the 8th. of March the casualties consisted of four officers, four sergeants, and ninety-four rank and file killed; twenty-six officers, thirty-four sergeants, five drummers, and four hundred and fifty rank and file wounded.

The troops which landed on the 8th., advanced three miles the same day, and on the 12th., the army moved forward, and came in sight of the enemy, who was strongly posted with his right to the canal of Alexandria, and his left towards the sea.

About six o'clock in the morning of the 13th. of March, the British advanced to attack the enemy's position in front of Mandora. The leading brigades were commanded by Major-Generals Cradock and the Earl of Cavan. The 90th. formed the advanced guard of the front line, and the 92nd. that of the second; both battalions suffered severely, and were highly distinguished. These two regiments bear the word *Mandora* on their colours. The French having opened a most destructive fire from their artillery, enfiladed the column to its whole depth, and orders were consequently given to deploy into line. This was considered a favourable moment, and the enemy immediately advanced to the attack. Major-General Cradock formed his brigade under a heavy fire, and the gallant conduct of the regiments, (the 8th., 13th., 18th., and 90th. infantry,) was equal to the emergency. In this action Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards Viscount) Hill commanded the 90th., and exhibited that coolness and conspicuous bravery so frequently displayed during the Peninsular campaigns.\* The remainder of the army

much disfigured, and his voice scarcely intelligible, (a part of his tongue and palate having been carried away,) he had for some years served as pioneer to his company; a soldier of it died, and Hullock, as a part of his duty, dug the grave, in which he was found, on the arrival of the body for interment, still at work, though then nearly ten feet deep. On being drawn out he was asked his reason for making it so unusually deep, he replied, "Why, Sir, it's for poor John Carnes, who buried me, and I think, Sir, if I get him that deep, it will puzzle him to creep out as I did." On the burial service being read, he proceeded to fill up the grave, and actually buried the man who ten years previously had buried him. Hullock was discharged and pensioned in 1814.

\* In the "Life of Lord Hill," by the Rev. Edwin Sydney, A.M., it appears that the sensibility of that gallant general was such as to faint, in his boyhood, at the sight of blood when one of his schoolfellows had cut his finger. After one of his achievements in the war, this fact was brought to his recollection by a lady, with the remark that she wondered how he could have acted with such coolness and vigour in the midst of the dreadful



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were immediately in a situation not only to face but to repel the enemy. The reserve, under Major-General Moore, which was on the right, on the change of the position of the army, moved on in column, and covered the right flank. The French were driven from their position, and were compelled to retreat over the plains into the lines on the heights before Alexandria.

Sir Ralph Abercromby expressed his obligations to all the general officers, and to the staff, and specially named the Honourable Brigadier-General Hope, (afterwards the Earl of Hopetoun,) Adjutant-General, and Lieutenant-Colonel Anstruther, Quartermaster-General.

In the action of the 13th. of March, the British had six officers, six sergeants, one drummer, and one hundred and forty-three rank and file killed; sixty-seven officers, sixty-one sergeants, seven drummers, and nine hundred and forty-six rank and file wounded.

In the general orders issued on the following day, it was stated, that "The Commander-in-Chief has the greatest satisfaction in thanking the troops for their soldier-like and intrepid conduct in the action of yesterday; he feels it incumbent on him particularly to express his most perfect satisfaction with the steady and gallant conduct of Major-General Cradock's brigade."

Having gained a second victory on the shores of Egypt, the army took up a position about four miles from Alexandria, having a sandy plain in front, the sea on the right, and the canal of Alexandria and the lake of Aboukir on the left. The 42nd. were posted, with the other regiments of the reserve, under Major-General Moore, on very high ground, projecting a quarter of a mile on the right, and extending to the large and magnificent ruins of a palace, built in the time of the Romans, within fifty yards of the sea. This high ground of sand-hills and old ruins, was about three hundred yards broad; it sloped gradually down into a valley, which lay between it and the other parts of the position. The 58th. regiment occupied the ruins, and the 28th. a redoubt near them; the 23rd.

scenes of carnage surrounding him. "I have still," he replied, "the same feelings; but in the excitement of battle all individual sensation is lost sight of."

and 42nd., with the flank companies of the 40th., and the Corsican Rangers, were placed a short distance behind the ruins and the redoubt: the other corps of the army extending to the canal. The French occupied a parallel position on a high and almost perpendicular ridge of hills; in the centre of their line appeared Fort Crétin—in the left of its rear Fort Caffarelli,—Pompey's Pillar on its right,—Cleopatra's Needle on the left, and the city of Alexandria extending to the sea, with the masts of the shipping in the harbour at the back of the town. The whole presented a most interesting appearance; objects celebrated in history, even some of the wonders of the world, could be distinctly seen, and the ruins under the soldier's feet were of interesting antiquity.

For seven days the army occupied this position without interruption; the soldiers being under arms every morning at three o'clock, and working parties being afterwards employed in strengthening the post.

An affair took place between a patrol of the British and that of the French in the neighbourhood of Alexandria, on the 18th. of March, in which the following casualties were sustained:—Quartermaster John Simpson, 26th. Light Dragoons, killed. Wounded—Colonel Mervyn Archdall, 12th. Light Dragoons, and Lieutenant and Adjutant Richard Hart, of the 26th. Light Dragoons. Captain the Honourable Pierce Butler, and Cornet Earle Lindsay Daniel, of the 12th. Light Dragoons, and Captain Charles Turner, (Brigade-Major,) and Quartermaster Abraham Moulton, of the 26th. Light Dragoons, were taken prisoners; seven rank and file and twenty-three horses were killed; one sergeant, and six rank and file, and twelve horses wounded; twelve men and seven horses missing.

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## BATTLE OF ALEXANDRIA.

21st. MARCH, 1801.

THE French army having been augmented by the arrival of additional troops from the interior, General Menou advanced early on the morning of the celebrated 21st. of March, and attacked the British position with great intrepidity. The

action commenced about an hour before daylight by a false attack on the British left, consisting of the 8th., 13th., 18th., and 90th. regiments, which was under Major-General Cradock's command, where they were soon repulsed. The most vigorous efforts of the enemy were directed against the right, which they endeavoured to turn. The attack on that point was commenced with great impetuosity by the French infantry, sustained by a strong body of cavalry, who charged in column. They were received with equal ardour, and with the utmost steadiness and discipline. The contest was unusually obstinate; the enemy was twice repulsed, and his cavalry became repeatedly mixed with the British infantry. At length they retired, leaving an immense number of killed and wounded on the field. In these attacks the 28th. and 42nd. regiments gained great renown; the former had been ordered into the redoubt on the left of the ruins of the palace of the Ptolemies,—the left wing of the 42nd. advanced under Major Stirling, and took post on the open ground quitted by the 28th., and the right wing of the regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, formed two hundred yards in the rear of the left wing. In an instant the ruins, redoubt, and left wing were attacked by the enemy with great impetuosity; but the steady and well-directed fire of the British regiments forced their assailants to retire.

While the front was thus engaged, a column of the famed "Invincible Legion" advanced, preceded by a six-pounder gun, silently along the interval between the left of the 42nd. and the right of the Foot Guards, from which the cavalry picket had retired, and calculating its distance correctly, although in the dark, it wheeled to its left, and penetrated unobserved between the wings of the 42nd. regiment drawn up in parallel lines. The instant this column was seen, the right wing of that regiment attacked its front with great gallantry, and captured the gun,—the rear rank of the left wing faced about attacked to its rear, and the French being thus placed between two fires, rushed towards the ruins of the ancient palace,—receiving the fire of the 28th. as they passed the redoubt, of the grenadiers and light infantry of the 40th. as they passed the ground occupied by these companies, and being pursued

in full career by the 42nd. As the French entered the ruins, two companies of the 58th. wheeled back, and after firing a few rounds of musketry, charged with the bayonet.\* Being thus attacked in front and on the flanks, and pursued by the Highlanders, who closed with bayonets on the rear, the "Invincible Legion" resisted until six hundred and fifty of their number had fallen, when the survivors, about two hundred and fifty in number, threw down their arms and surrendered, delivering up their standard to Major Stirling, of the 42nd., who gave it in charge of a sergeant, with directions to remain close to the gun which the regiment had taken from the enemy.† This column of the enemy being thus disposed of, the 42nd.

\* "The 28th. stationed there opened a heavy fire on that part of the enemy which attempted to storm the redoubt in front; but the main body of the two columns now joined to a third, forced in behind the redoubt, and whilst some remained to attack it thus in the rear, the rest penetrated into the ruins. Colonel Crowdjye, who commanded the left of the 58th., observing their advance through the openings, wheeled back two companies, and after two or three rounds of fire, advanced on the enemy with the bayonet. At this instant the 23rd. regiment appeared to support, having moved for that purpose from its station, and the 42nd. also advancing on the exterior side of the ruins, to cover the opening on the left of the redoubt, so cut off the troops which had entered, that after a severe loss they were obliged to surrender. The 28th. regiment had presented, as well as the 58th., the extraordinary spectacle of troops fighting at the same time to the front, flanks, and rear. Although thus surrounded, the 28th. regiment remained fixed to the platform of the parapet, and preserving its order, continued a contest unexampled before this day.

"The advance of the 42nd. relieved the 28th. for a moment from this unequal attack; but as that regiment approached the right of the redoubt, the first line of the enemy's cavalry, passing by the left of the redoubt, floundering over the tents and in the holes dug in the encampment of the 28th. regiment, charged *en masse*, and overwhelmed the 42nd.; yet, though broken, this gallant corps was not defeated; individually it resisted, and the conduct of each man exalted still more the high character of the regiment. Colonel Spencer, who, with the flank companies of the 40th., had taken his station in the intervals of the ruins, was for some seconds afraid to order his men to fire, lest he should destroy the 42nd., so intermixed with the enemy. But the cavalry passing on, and directing itself against that interval, he was obliged to command the firing, which stopped the cavalry's advance; yet such a feeble force must instantly have been overpowered, if at this critical moment General Stuart, with the foreign brigade from the second line, had not advanced in the most perfect order, and poured in such a heavy and well-directed fire, that nothing could withstand it, and the enemy fled or perished."—*Sir Robert Wilson's History of the British Expedition to Egypt.*

† When the standard was delivered up to Major Stirling, of the 42nd., he gave it in charge to a sergeant to remain close to the gun which that corps had captured, but in a subsequent charge, this non-commissioned officer was ridden over by the French Dragoons, was stunned in consequence, and when he returned to consciousness the standard of the "Invincible Legion" was gone. It was afterwards recovered from the French by Private Anthony Lutz, of the Minorca regiment in the British service, was sent to England, and placed in the Royal Military Chapel, Whitehall, and subsequently in Chelsea Hospital.

instantly issued from among the ruins, and formed line in battalion on the flat, with their right supported by the redoubt; but at that moment the French infantry pressed forward so rapidly, that Major-General Moore ordered the regiment forward before its formation was completed, when Sir Ralph Abercromby, who was on the spot, encouraging the troops, called out "My brave Highlanders, remember your country, remember your forefathers!" and the regiment rushed forward with heroic ardour, drove back the French, and pursued them along the sandy plain. Major-General Moore, who had the advantage of a keen penetrating eye, saw through the increasing clearness of the atmosphere, fresh columns of the enemy, with three squadrons of cavalry, prepared to charge through the intervals of the retreating infantry, and instantly calling to the 42nd. to cease pursuing, directed them to resume their former ground to resist the charge of cavalry. This order to fall back to the redoubt, was repeated by Lieutenant-Colonel Stirling, but it was only partially heard by the regiment, owing to the noise from the firing; the companies which heard it fell back, and the others remained in advance. While in this broken state, the regiment was charged by the French horsemen, who dashed forward with great audacity, as to an assured victory; but the gallant Highlanders stood firm, and their fire thinned the enemy's ranks in the advance. All the companies which were formed repulsed the dragoons with loss; the other companies were broken, yet the Highlanders individually, or in small groups, maintained a fierce contest with the dragoons, and a number of single combats took place, in which great courage and activity were displayed. The French dragoons which had penetrated the broken companies, or passed through the intervals, turned to their left towards the ruins of the old Roman palace, as the column of infantry had done early in the morning, and were nearly annihilated by the fire of the 28th. regiment.

During this fierce contest the British troops had expended their ammunition, and while a supply was being procured from the ordnance stores at a distance, their fire ceased; that of the enemy, however, was continued with great execution, and put to a severe test the patient endurance of the troops, who

suffered severely. When a supply of ammunition arrived, the enemy retreated, and the action terminated.

Whilst this was passing on the right, the French attempted to penetrate the centre with a column of infantry, who were also repulsed, and obliged to retreat with loss; and here the Guards, under Major-General Ludlow, conducted themselves in the most cool, intrepid, and soldier-like manner, and were specially commended in the official despatch. They received very effectual support by a movement of the right of Major-General Coote's brigade.

Thus the British soldiers stood triumphant over Buonaparte's "Invincible Legions" at the close of this third engagement. The loss of the enemy was calculated to amount to upwards of three thousand killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. The British had ten officers, nine sergeants, and two hundred and twenty-four rank and file killed; sixty officers, forty-eight sergeants, three drummers, and one thousand and eighty-two rank and file wounded. One stand of colours and two field-pieces were taken.

Sir Ralph Abercromby received a mortal wound at the commencement of the action, but which he concealed until the battle was decided. This gallant general died on the 28th. of March, and was buried at Malta. During the action he had had a narrow escape; after despatching his aides-de-camp to the different brigades, he was left alone near the ruins of the Palace of the Ptolemies, when the French cavalry having penetrated to the rear of the redoubt, two dragoons attacked him; a corporal of the 42nd. ran to his assistance, and shot one of the assailants; the other rode off, but was encountered and bayoneted by a soldier of the same regiment. He was succeeded in the command of the army by Lieutenant-General (afterwards Lord) Hutchinson. In that officer's despatch, the conduct of the reserve, under Major-General (afterwards Sir John) Moore, against whom the principal attack was directed, was highly noticed; Major-General Moore and Brigadier-General Oakes, both wounded nearly at the same time, were specially mentioned; and the 28th. and 42nd. regiments\* were reported

\* The Highland Society, at London, in grateful acknowledgment, and commemoration of the valour of their countrymen, on this day, presented



as having acted "in the most distinguished and brilliant manner." Major-General Coote, Colonel Paget, Brigadier-Generals Stuart and Hope, the foreign brigade, and Major-General Ludlow were all commended.

Sir Archibald Alison, in his "History of Europe," has eloquently summed up the consequences of this victory:—"The Battle of Alexandria not only delivered Egypt from the republican yoke; it decided, in its ultimate consequences, the fate of the civilized world. The importance of a triumph is not always to be measured by the number of troops engaged; twenty-four thousand Romans, under Cæsar at Pharsalia, changed the fate of antiquity; thirty-five thousand Greeks, under Alexander, subverted all the empires of the East; thirty-thousand Republicans at Marengo seated Napoleon on the consular throne, and established a power which overturned nearly all the monarchies of Europe. The contest of twelve thousand British with an equal number of French on the sands of Alexandria, in its remote effects, overthrew a greater empire than that of Charlemagne, and rescued mankind from a more galling tyranny than that of the Roman emperors. It first elevated the hopes and confirmed the resolution of the English soldiers; it first broke the charm by which the continental nations had so long been enthralled; it first revived the military spirit of the English people, and awakened the pleasing hope, that the descendants of the victors at Cressy and Azincourt had not degenerated from the valour of their fathers. Nothing but the recollection of this decisive trial of strength could have supported the British nation through the arduous conflict which awaited them on the renewal of the war, and induced them to remain firm and unshaken amidst the successive prostration of every continental power, till the dawn of hope began to appear over the summit of the Pyrenees, and the eastern sky was reddened by the conflagration of Moscow. The continental

the 42nd. regiment with a piece of plate, value one hundred guineas, inscribed with an appropriate motto and designs. A silver medal was also struck, in commemoration of the capture of Buonaparte's invincible standard; one to be given to each private as well as officer in the regiment, or, if killed or dead, to their nearest surviving relations. The cool and intrepid courage of Colonel Stewart's foreign corps, and of the 28th. regiment, on whom, as well as the 42nd., the fury of the enemy principally fell, it is agreed, on all hands, was also, on this important day, particularly distinguished.

nations, accustomed to the shock of vast armies, and to regard the English only as a naval power, attached little importance to the contest of such inconsiderable bodies of men on a distant shore; but the prophetic eye of Napoleon at once discovered the magnitude of its consequences, and he received the intelligence of the disaster at Alexandria with a degree of anguish equalled only by that experienced from the shock of Trafalgar."

After this victory one division traversed the country to Rosetta, and captured the forts at that place; part of the army then advanced up the River Nile, and forced the French troops at the city of Cairo to surrender. Another portion was engaged in the blockade of Alexandria.

Meanwhile the force under Major-General Baird had sailed from Bombay for the Red Sea. The original design was to proceed to the port of Suez, but the monsoon had commenced before the fleet entered the Red Sea, in April, 1801, when the Major-General determined to land at Cosseir, on the Red Sea, and brave the difficulties of the desert, in the hope of affording important aid to the forces which had arrived in Egypt from Europe. This was the first occasion that British troops had proceeded by the overland route,\* which course was again adopted during the Crimean Campaign, when two regiments of cavalry (10th. and 12th. Dragoons) proceeded from India to Sebastopol. At this early period the fourteen-days' march through the desert was a more serious affair than in later times.

On landing the country presented a frightfully desolate prospect, but the soldiers commenced their march with alacrity, although suffering from excessive heat and dysentery, occasioned by bad water. The march was made during the night. A short distance from Cosseir the troops entered a ravine, which appeared to be the old bed of a river, along which they travelled three days, when it terminated at Moilah: thence the desert had generally a hard gravelly soil, until the troops arrived at Baromba, where the first

\* The regiments which proceeded from India were the 10th., 80th., 86th., and 88th. regiments; a troop of the 8th. Light Dragoons and the 61st. regiment embarked from the Cape of Good Hope, joined the army, under Major-General Baird, at Cosseir, in July, 1801, and proceeded through the desert to Kenna, on the Nile, where the troops afterwards embarked for Cairo.

habitable spot was met with after leaving Cosseir, not a single hut being previously seen. There was an almost irresistible inclination to sleep, and some soldiers straggling from the line of march that they might lie down, lost their lives. About ten miles from Baromba was Kenna, which was reached without further difficulty.

Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir John Hely Hutchinson, K.B., who had succeeded to the command upon the death of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, advanced to Grand Cairo, which capitulated on the 27th. of June, 1801. General Menou, refusing to accept the capitulation of Cairo, was closely besieged in Alexandria. The operations against the enemy's works commenced on the 17th. of August. Major-General Coote embarked with a strong body of troops on the inundation in the night of the 16th. and 17th. of August, and effected a landing to the westward of Alexandria, and immediately invested the strong castle of Marabout.

On the east side of Alexandria two attacks were made to obtain possession of some heights, in front of the entrenched position of the enemy. Major-General Cradock conducted the attack against their right, and Major-General Moore was entrusted with that against their left. The action was neither obstinate nor severe, and but small loss was sustained. A part of Brigadier-General Doyle's brigade, the 30th. regiment, (but under the immediate command of Colonel Spencer,) had taken possession of a hill in front of the French right. General Menou, who was in person in that part of his entrenched camp immediately opposite to the British post, ordered about six hundred men to make a sortie. The enemy advanced in column, with fixed bayonets, and without firing a shot, till they were very close to the 30th. regiment, to whom Colonel Spencer gave an immediate order to charge, though they did not consist of more than two hundred men. The order was obeyed with great spirit and determination, and the enemy was driven back to his entrenchments in the greatest confusion, with the loss of several killed, wounded, and taken prisoners.

On the night between the 18th. and 19th., Major-General Coote opened batteries against the castle of Marabout. This

fort, situated on an island at the entrance of the old harbour of Alexandria, capitulated to the troops under Major-General Eyre Coote, on the 21st. of August, 1801. No loss was sustained. A brass gun was captured from the enemy by the first battalion of the 54th. regiment, which it retained until December, 1841; and on its being placed in the repository established in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, the corps received the royal authority to bear the word MARABOUT on the regimental colour and appointments, in commemoration of the gallantry evinced by the battalion at the capture of that fort. No other regiment bears this distinction.

Major-General Coote marched from Marabout on the morning of the 22nd. of August, to attack a strong corps posted in his front, in order to cover the approach to Alexandria. In the action which ensued, the French suffered extremely, and left their wounded and seven pieces of cannon behind. A remarkable escape of this General and a company of guards is related by Sir Robert Wilson. While passing under a heavy fire of grape, which struck off several of the men's caps, they escaped without injury.

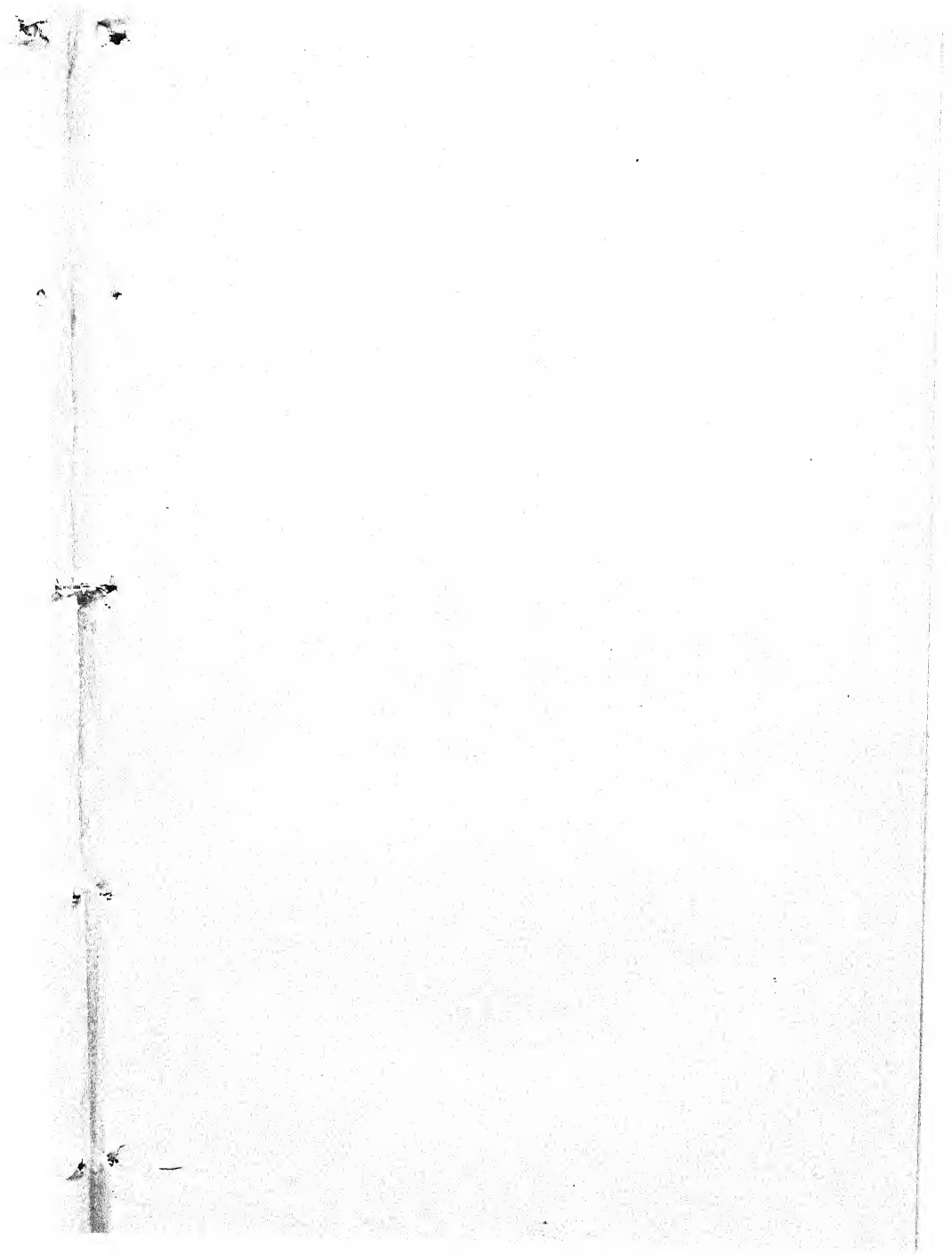
During the evening of the 27th. of August, General Menou sent an aide-de-camp to request an armistice for three days, in order to afford time to prepare a capitulation, which after some difficulties and delays was signed on the 2nd. of September. It is on record that after the terms of surrender were concluded, the French General received Brigadier-General Hope with the natural politeness of his countrymen, and an invitation was given to dinner, the repast consisting entirely of horse-flesh.

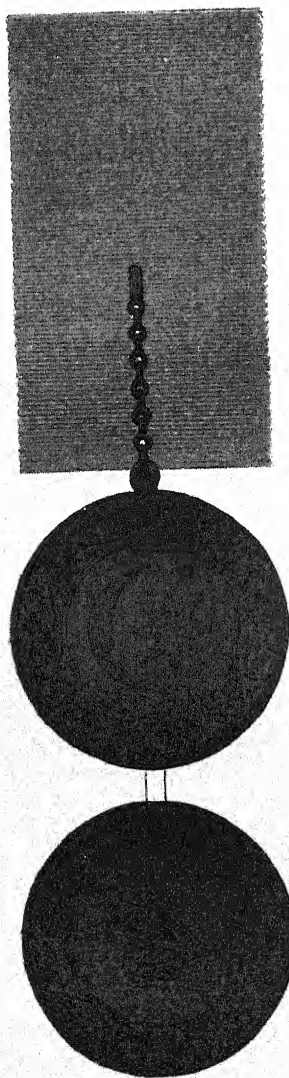
This terminated the campaign in Egypt, and the achievements of the British army were a prelude to future victories. The troops received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, and all the regiments received the royal authority to bear on their colours the word "EGYPT," with the *Sphinx* as a lasting memorial of the glories acquired during this arduous and important campaign, which had exalted the military fame of Great Britain, by the expulsion of the "invincible" legions of Buonaparte from Egypt, whence he had expected to extend his conquests throughout Asia. The following were the regi-

ments employed in Egypt, in 1801:—

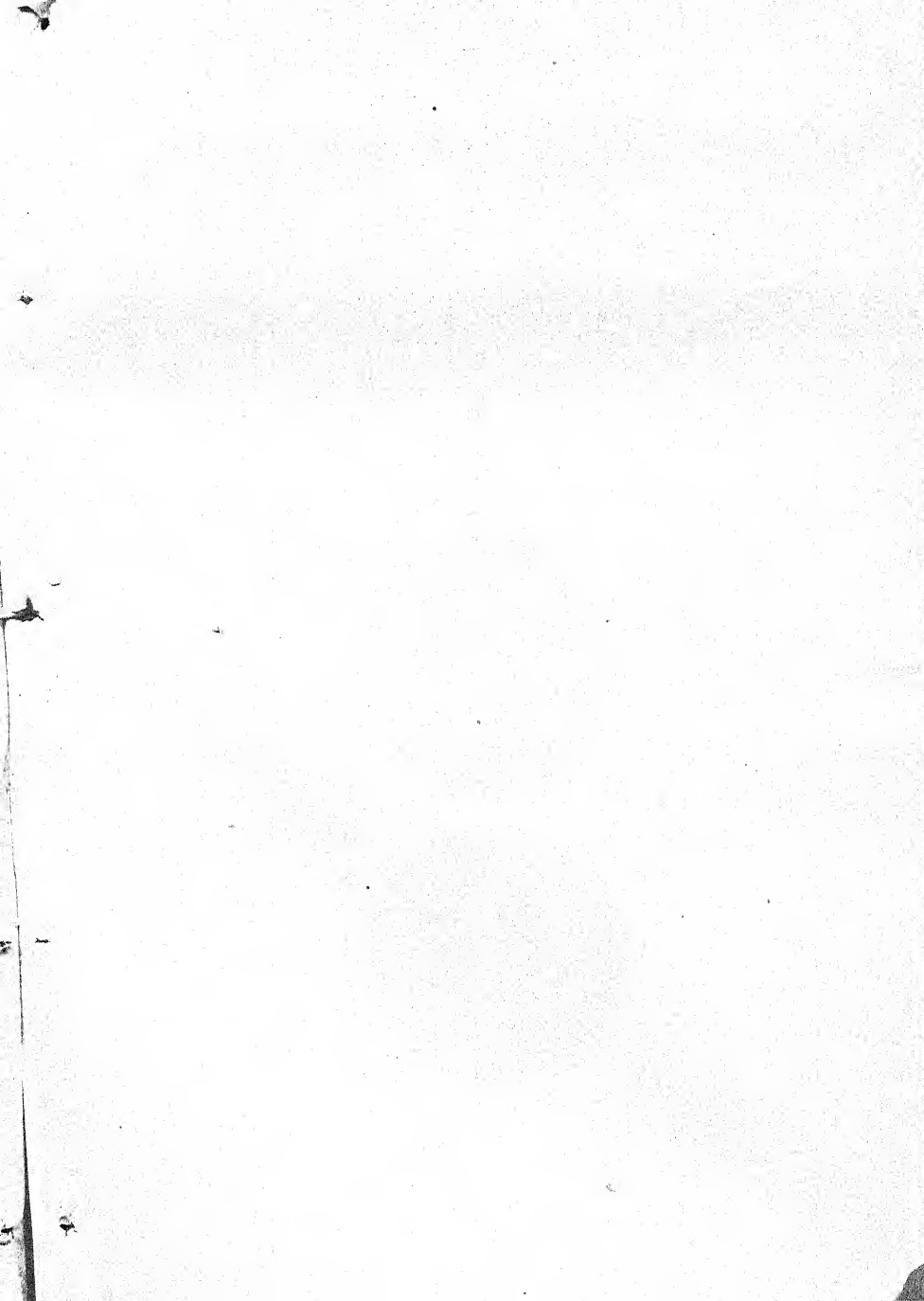
8th. Light Dragoons, one Troop, Captain Hawkins; 11th. Light Dragoons, one Troop, Captain A. Money; 12th. Light Dragoons, Colonel Mervyn Archdall; 22nd. Light Dragoons,\* Lieutenant-Colonel Honourable William Lumley; 26th. (afterwards 23rd.) Light Dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Gordon; Hompesch's Hussars, (detachment,) Major Sir Robert T. Wilson; Coldstream Guards, 1st. Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Brice; 3rd. Foot Guards, 1st. Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel T. Hilgrove Turner; Royals, 2nd. Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Duncan Campbell; 2nd. Queen's Royal, Colonel the Earl of Dalhousie; 8th. Foot, King's, Colonel Gordon Drummond; 10th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Quarrell; 13th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel Honourable Charles Colville; 18th., Royal Irish, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry T. Montresor; 20th. Foot, 1st. and 2nd. Battalions, Lieutenant-Colonel George Smith; 23rd. Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Lieutenant-Colonel John Hall; 24th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel John R. Forster; 25th. Foot, Colonel William Dyott; 26th. Foot, Colonel Lord Elphinstone; 27th. Inniskilling, 1st. and 2nd. Battalions, Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Graham; 28th. Foot, Colonel Honourable Edward Paget; 30th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel William Wilkinson; 40th. Foot, (Flank Companies,) Colonel Brent Spencer; 42nd., Royal Highland Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel William Dickson; 44th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel David Ogilvie; 50th. Foot, Colonel Patrick Wauchope; 54th. Foot, 1st. and 2nd. Battalions, Lieutenant-Colonel John Thomas Layard; 58th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel William Houstoun; 61st. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Carruthers; 79th. Foot, Colonel Alan Cameron; 80th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel John Montresor; 86th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel James P. Lloyd; 88th. Foot, Colonel William Carr Beresford; 89th. Foot, Colonel William Stewart; 90th. Foot, Colonel Rowland Hill; 92nd. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Erskine; De Watteville's Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Louis de Watteville; The Queen's German Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Peter John James Dutens; De Rolle's Regiment, Lieuten-

\* The 22nd. Light Dragoons, 20th. (two battalions,) 24th., 25th., and 26th. Regiments, the Ancient Irish Fencibles, and the foreign corps of De Watteville and Chasseurs Britanniques, joined the Army in Egypt, in July, 1801.





TURKISH MEDAL FOR WAR





ant-Colonel The Baron De Dürler; Dillon's Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel The Baron Perponcher; Royal Corsican Rangers, Major Hudson Lowe; Ancient Irish Fencibles; Chasseurs Britanniques, Colonel John Ramsay; and the Staff Corps, (detachment.)

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### THE TURKISH MEDAL.\*

THE Grand Seignior, with a view to perpetuate the services rendered to the Ottoman empire, established an order of knighthood, designated the Crescent, which was conferred on the general officers. He also presented large gold medals to the field officers, and others of a smaller size to the captains and subalterns, which they were authorized by His Majesty to accept and wear. A palace was also built at Constantinople for the future residence of the British ambassadors. The medal from which the engraving has been made is the smaller one, given to captains and subalterns, but is the same in pattern as the larger size, conferred on the field-officers. On one side are the Crescent and Star, and on the other is the Sultan's cypher, under which is the year 1801; the border is the same on both sides; the ribbon is dark orange.

\* The illustrations of the Turkish and Maida medals have been made from specimens kindly lent to the author by Robert Hudson, Esq., F.R.S., who has at much expense and labour procured a most valuable collection of medals, illustrative of our military and naval annals.

## BATTLE OF MAIDA.

4TH. JULY, 1806.

A SQUADRON of British and Russian vessels having, in November, 1805, landed some troops at Naples, without any opposition from the Neapolitan court, shortly afterwards departed. On receiving intelligence of this transaction, the French Emperor issued a proclamation, that "the Neapolitan dynasty had ceased to reign," and his brother Joseph, assisted by Marshal Massena, proceeded with an army to that country. The French entered Naples on the 15th. of February, and shortly obtained possession of the whole kingdom, excepting Gaeta. Meanwhile the Court had retired to Sicily. A decree was soon issued, by which the crown of Naples was conferred by Napoleon on his brother Joseph, who was proclaimed king on the 30th. of May.

A body of troops was assembled by the French in Calabria, and extensive preparations were made for the invasion of Sicily. Major-General Stuart, who then commanded the British troops in Sicily, formed the design of penetrating Calabria, and attacking the French division, under General Regnier: the result was the Battle of Maida, Upper Calabria, which was fought on the 4th. of July, 1806. On hearing of the disembarkation of the British at St. Euphemia, General Regnier made a rapid march from Reggio, uniting, as he advanced, his detached corps. Major-General Stuart resolved to anticipate the attack, and the army commenced its march on the morning of the 4th. of July. By nine o'clock in the morning the opposing fronts were warmly engaged. The right of the advanced line consisted of the battalion of light infantry, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel, afterwards Sir James, Kempt, consisting of the light companies of the 20th., 27th., 35th., 58th., 61st., 81st., and Watteville's, (since disbanded,) together with one hundred and fifty chosen battalion men of the 35th. regiment, under Major Robinson. Directly opposed to them was the favourite French regiment, the 1re. Légère. The two corps, at the distance of about one hundred yards, fired reciprocally a few rounds, when, as if by

mutual consent, the firing was suspended, and in close compact order and dreadful silence they advanced towards each other, until their bayonets began to cross. This momentous crisis appalled the enemy; they broke and endeavoured to fly, but it was too late, and they were overtaken, when the most terrible slaughter ensued.

Brigadier-General Acland, whose brigade, consisting of the 78th. and 81st. regiments, was immediately on the left of the light infantry, availed himself of this favourable moment to press instantly forward upon the corps in his front, when the 78th., under Lieutenant-Colonel Macleod, and the 81st., under Major Plenderleath, had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves. The enemy fled in dismay and disorder, leaving the plain covered with their dead and wounded.

Being thus completely discomfited on his left, General Rénier commenced a new effort in the hope of recovering the day. The grenadier battalion and the 27th. regiment, which formed the first brigade, under Brigadier-General Cole, resisted the enemy most gallantly. Nothing could shake the undaunted firmness of the grenadiers, under Lieutenant-Colonel O'Callaghan, and of the 27th. regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Smith. The cavalry, successively repelled from before their front, attempted to turn their left, when Lieutenant-Colonel Ross, who had that morning landed from Messina with the 20th. Foot, and was coming up to the army during the action, having observed this movement, threw his regiment opportunely into a small cover upon their flank, and by a heavy and well-directed fire completely frustrated the attempt. The 20th., with natural pride, always commemorated this day's glory. The enemy having succeeded with his cavalry in turning the British left, owing to the total deficiency of that arm on the part of the English, might possibly have retrieved the day, but for this movement. This was the final struggle, and the French began precipitately to retire; above seven hundred of their dead were buried upon the field of battle.

The British infantry continued in pursuit as long as they were able, but as the enemy dispersed in every direction, and the victors were under the necessity of preserving order, the trial of speed became unequal. The total loss sustained by

the French was estimated at four thousand men; while that of the British was limited to only one officer, three sergeants, and forty-one rank and file killed; eleven officers, eight sergeants, two drummers, and two hundred and sixty-one rank and file wounded.

For this victory Major-General Stuart received the thanks of Parliament, with a vote of a thousand pounds a year for life; the approbation of his Sovereign, and the dignity of a Knight of the Bath; he was created Count of Maida by the King of Naples, and the city of London voted him its freedom and a sword.

In the official communication from the British minister at Palermo, the battle of Maida was thus adverted to:—"There is not to be found in the annals of military transactions an enterprise prepared with more deliberate reflection, or executed with greater decision, promptitude, and success, than the late invasion of Calabria by Sir John Stuart. I trust, therefore, you will not think me presumptuous for venturing to add my testimony of the high sense entertained by this Court, of the merits of the British General, and of his gallant army, who, on the fertile plains of Maida, have added new trophies to those which the same troops had formerly earned, from the same enemy, on the sandy regions of Egypt."

The following regiments bear the word MAIDA on their colours:—20th., 27th., 35th., 58th., 61st., (flank companies,) 78th., and 81st. Foot.

#### GOLD MEDAL FOR MAIDA.

IN commemoration of this victory a gold medal was struck, and conferred upon all the superior officers who were present. On the obverse is the lauriated head of the Sovereign, inscribed GEORGIUS TERTIUS REX. The reverse has Britannia brandishing a spear with her right hand, and on her left a shield charged with the crosses of the Union banner. A flying figure of Victory is crowning her with a wreath of laurel; behind Britannia is the triquetra, or trinacria, the ancient symbol of Sicily, and before her is inscribed MAIDA IVL. IV. MDCCCVI. Round the edge the name and rank of the officers were engraved.

There was only one size of this medal, which was worn both by General and Field officers from the button-hole of their uniform, to a red ribbon, with blue edges, and a gold buckle. The issue was limited to the Commander of the Forces engaged, officers in command of brigades, battalions, or of corps equiva-



lent to a battalion, or the officer who succeeded on the removal from the field of the original commander, and the Deputy Quartermaster-General. As a general rule, no officer below the rank of Major was considered eligible, unless he succeeded to the command of a battalion during the action.

## BATTLES OF ROLEIA AND VIMIERA.

17TH. AND 21ST. AUGUST, 1808.

At this period the Peninsula was the centre of political interest. Portugal, deserted by her government, and Spain betrayed, the people of each of those countries rose in arms to recover the national independence. Dissensions had arisen in the royal family of Spain, occasioned by the sway of Manuel Godoy, who bore the title of the Prince of Peace. This minister was dismissed, but the court was unable to restore tranquillity. In this emergency the French Emperor was solicited to be umpire, and Napoleon eventually placed the crown of Spain on his brother Joseph, who was transferred from the throne of Naples. The Spaniards at once flew to arms, and the British government resolved to aid the Spanish and Portuguese patriots. A British army was accordingly ordered to proceed to the Peninsula, under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wellesley. After a favourable passage the troops destined for this service anchored in Mondego Bay, in the beginning of August, and a landing was effected in the vicinity of the village of Frejus. The division under Major-General (afterwards Sir Brent) Spencer, K.B., from Cadiz, consisting of about four thousand men, joined on the 8th. of August; and after a short halt, the army was put in motion to occupy a more forward position, where it remained for some days. Sir Arthur marched from Leiria on the 13th., and arrived at Alcobaça on the 19th., which place the enemy abandoned in the preceding night. The French, about four thousand in number, were posted at Roleia, or Roleia, (the latter mode of spelling having been inaccurately adopted from the despatch for the colours,) and Brilos was occupied by their advanced posts. The possession of this latter village being important to future operations, it was determined to occupy it, and as soon as the British infantry arrived upon the ground, a detachment, consisting of four companies of riflemen of the 60th. and 95th. regiments, was ordered to effect this duty. A trifling resistance was offered by a small

picket of the enemy's infantry and a few cavalry, after which they retired, being followed by a detachment of riflemen to the distance of three miles from Brilos. The riflemen were then attacked by a superior body of the enemy, who attempted to cut them off from the main body of the detachment to which they belonged. Large bodies of the enemy appeared on both the flanks of the detachment, which had advanced in support of the riflemen, and it was with difficulty that Major-General Spencer was enabled to effect a retreat to Obidos, which village it remained in possession of. In this affair of the advanced posts on the 15th. of August, which is known as the action at Lourinha, and which was occasioned by the eagerness of the troops in pursuit of the enemy, some few casualties were sustained by the fifth battalion of the 60th., and second battalion of the 95th., now Rifle Brigade.

Two days afterwards was fought the Battle of Roleia, or Roliça. General Laborde continued in his position at this place, and Sir Arthur Wellesley determined to attack him in it on the morning of the 17th. of August. Roliça is situated on an eminence, having a plain in its front, at the end of a valley, which commences at Caldas, and is closed to the southwards by the mountains, which join the hills, forming a valley on the left, looking towards Caldas. In the centre of the valley, and about eight miles from Roliça, is the town and old moorish fort of Obidos, from whence the enemy's pickets had been driven on the 15th., and from that time he had posts in the hills on both sides of the valley, as well as in the plain in front of his army, which was posted on the heights in front of Roliça; its right resting upon the hills, its left upon an eminence, on which was a windmill, and the whole covering four or five passes into the mountains in his rear.

About seven o'clock in the morning the troops moved from Obidos. Brigadier-General Fane's riflemen were immediately detached into the hills on the left of the valley, to keep up the communication between the centre and left columns, and to protect the march of the former along the valley; the enemy's posts were successively driven in. Major-General Hill's brigade moved on to attack the French left, and Brigadier-Generals Nightingall and Craufurd advanced with the artillery

along the high-road, until at length Nightingall's formed in the plain immediately in the enemy's front, supported by the light infantry companies, and the 45th. regiment, of Brigadier-General Craufurd's brigade; while the other two regiments of his brigade, the 50th. and 91st., were kept as a reserve in the rear.

Major-General Rowland (afterwards Viscount) Hill and Brigadier-General Nightingall advanced upon the enemy's position, and at the same moment Brigadier-General Fane's riflemen were in the hills on his right; the Portuguese infantry in a village upon his left; and Major-General Ferguson's column was descending from the heights into the plain. From this situation the French retired by the passes into the mountains with the utmost regularity and celerity; and notwithstanding the rapid advance of the British infantry, the want of a sufficient body of cavalry was the cause of their suffering but little loss in the plain. It then became necessary to make a disposition to attack the formidable position which had been taken up. Brigadier-General Fane's riflemen were already in the mountains on the enemy's right, and no time was lost in attacking the different passes, as well as in supporting the riflemen, so as to ensure a complete victory.

The Portuguese infantry were ordered to move up a pass on the right of the whole; the light companies of Major-General Hill's brigade, and the 5th. Fusiliers advanced up a pass next on the right; and the 29th. regiment, supported by the 9th. foot, under Brigadier-General Nightingall, a third pass; and the 45th. and 82nd. regiments, passes on the left. These were all difficult of access, and some of them were well defended, particularly that assailed by the 9th. and 29th. Foot; both regiments attacked with the greatest impetuosity, and reached the enemy before those whose assaults were to be made on their flanks; the defence was desperate, and it was in this attack that the greatest loss was sustained, Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable George A. F. Lake being killed at the head of his regiment, the 29th. Foot.

General Laborde was however driven from all the positions he had taken in the passes of the mountains, and the British troops were advanced in the plains on their tops. For a considerable length of time the 9th. and 29th. regiments



alone were advanced to this point, with Brigadier-General Fane's riflemen at a distance on the left; they were afterwards supported by the 5th., and by the light companies of Major-General Hill's brigade, which had arrived on their right, and by the other troops ordered to ascend the mountains, the latter arriving by degrees. Here three most gallant attacks were made upon the 9th. and 29th. regiments, in all of which the enemy was repulsed; but he succeeded in effecting a retreat in good order, owing principally to Sir Arthur's want of cavalry, and to the difficulty of bringing up the passes of the mountains with celerity a sufficient number of troops and of cannon, to support those who had first ascended. The French loss was nevertheless very great, and three pieces of cannon were captured.

Sir Arthur Wellesley, in his despatch, observed "that although we had such a superiority of numbers employed in the operations of this day, the troops actually engaged in the heat of the action were, from unavoidable circumstances, only the 5th., 9th., 29th., the riflemen of the 60th. and 95th., and the flank companies of Major-General Hill's brigade, being a number by no means equal to that of the enemy: their conduct, therefore, deserves the highest commendation."

The British casualties were four officers killed and twenty wounded; three non-commissioned officers and drummers killed, twenty non-commissioned officers and drummers wounded; sixty-three rank and file killed, and two hundred and ninety-five wounded. The French losses were more than double, as they amounted to one thousand in killed, wounded, and prisoners.

Thus was the first victory in the Peninsula gained; and it afforded an omen of future successes, which was afterwards fully accomplished. The 5th., 6th., 9th., 29th., 32nd., 36th., 38th., 40th., 45th., 60th., 71st., 82nd., 91st., and Rifle Brigade, all bear the word "ROLEIA" for this battle.

Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wellesley did not pursue the enemy by the high-roads, but keeping to the right, near the sea, marched to Vimiera, to cover the landing of a brigade commanded by Major-General Anstruther, which was effected on the 20th. of August. The following morning was to be

given up to the troops in order to prepare and repose themselves. Whilst the men were engaged in washing and cleaning their equipments, the approach of the enemy, moving to the left, was discovered at eight o'clock in the morning, and the brigades commanded by Major-General Ferguson, Brigadier-Generals Nightingall, Acland, and Bowes, proceeded across a valley from the heights on the west to those on the east of Vimiera.

Marshal Junot, Duke of Abrantes, advanced to the attack of the position, and commenced it on the British centre, where the 50th. regiment was posted, moving along the front gradually to the left, until the whole line became engaged. Notwithstanding the fire of the riflemen, the enemy advanced close to the 50th., and were checked and driven back only by the bayonets of that regiment. The second battalion of the 43rd. was likewise closely engaged with them, in the road leading into Vimiera, a part of that corps having been ordered into the churchyard to prevent them from penetrating into the town. On the right of the position they were repulsed by the bayonets of the 97th. regiment, successfully supported by the second battalion of the 52nd., which, by an advance in column, took the enemy in flank.

The attack upon the heights on the road to Lourinha was supported by a large body of cavalry, and was made with the usual impetuosity of French troops. They were received with steadiness by the brigade under Major-General Ferguson, consisting of the 36th., 40th., and 71st. regiments. These corps charged as soon as the enemy approached them, who gave way, and they continued to advance upon him, supported by the 82nd., one of the corps of Brigadier-General Nightingall's brigade, which, as the ground extended, afterwards formed a part of the first line; by the 29th. regiment, and by Brigadier-Generals Bowes and Acland's brigades; whilst Brigadier-General Craufurd's brigade and the Portuguese troops, in two lines, proceeded along the heights on the left. In the advance of Major-General Ferguson's brigade six pieces of cannon were taken, with many prisoners, and vast numbers were killed and wounded.

An attempt was afterwards made by the French to recover

a portion of their artillery, by attacking the 71st. and 82nd. regiments, which were halted in a valley in which the guns had been captured. The attempt failed, and the enemy were compelled again to retire with great loss.

Sir Arthur Wellesley especially noticed the following corps:—The Royal artillery, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Robe; the 20th. Dragoons, (since disbanded,) commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, who was killed; the 50th. regiment, commanded by Colonel Walker; the second battalion of the 95th. regiment, (rifles,) commanded by Major Travers; the fifth battalion 60th. regiment, commanded by Major Davy; the second battalion 43rd., commanded by Major Hull; the second battalion 52nd., commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Ross; the 97th. regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Lyon; the 36th., commanded by Colonel Burne; the 40th., commanded by Colonel Kemmis; the 71st., commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards Sir Denis) Pack; and the 82nd. regiment, commanded by Major Eyre. The British commander, always chary of praise, paid a special tribute to the 36th. regiment.

Captain Hardinge, 57th. regiment, Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General, afterwards Viscount Hardinge, was amongst the wounded. Four officers were killed, and thirty-seven wounded; three non-commissioned officers and drummers were killed, and thirty-one wounded; one hundred and twenty-eight rank and file were killed, and four hundred and sixty-six wounded. Thirteen pieces of cannon, twenty-three ammunition waggons, with powder, shells, stores of all descriptions, and twenty thousand rounds of musket ammunition, were captured. General Beniere was wounded and taken prisoner, together with several officers. The defeat was signal, and not more than half the British army was actually engaged. The French casualties amounted to nearly two thousand killed, wounded, and taken prisoners.

In this action, George Clark, one of the pipers of the 71st. Highland Light Infantry, was wounded; and being unable to accompany his corps in the advance against the enemy, put his pipes in order, and struck up a favourite regimental air, to the intense delight of his comrades.

Both Houses of Parliament voted their thanks to the British troops for this victory, and the word *VIMIERA* was authorized to be borne on the colours and appointments of the following regiments:—2nd., 5th., 6th., 9th., 20th., 29th., 32nd., 36th., 38th., 40th., 43rd., 45th., 50th., 52nd., 60th., 71st., 82nd., 91st., and Rifle Brigade.

Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Burrard arrived during the action, but did not assume the command: Lieutenant-General Sir Hew Dalrymple landed on the following day, and took command of the army. The force under Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore was also embarked during the negotiation which subsequently took place, making the British forces to amount to thirty-two thousand men. This treaty, which was styled the "Convention of Cintra," was signed on the 30th. of August, and by its provisions the French troops evacuated Portugal.

All the objects of the expedition having been effected, and the French forces embarked for France, the British army remained for some time at Lisbon and its vicinity. This convention excited great dissatisfaction in England, and a Court of Enquiry was assembled to investigate the circumstances attending it.

#### GOLD MEDAL FOR ROLEIA AND VIMIERA.

ALTHOUGH these battles were distinct actions only one medal was conferred, but it was granted to those who were present at either of them. On the obverse *Britannia* is represented seated on the globe; in her right hand extended a wreath of laurel, and in her left a palm branch; to her right the British lion, and on the left a shield charged with the crosses of the union banner. The reverse had a wreath of laurel, within which the name of the event was engraved, and the year, thus—*Roleia and Vimiera, 1808*. The name and rank of the officer were engraved on the edge. Further particulars regarding these medals will be given with the description of that for *Talavera*, of which an illustration has been made, and which is similar to that granted for the above and subsequent victories.

## SIR JOHN MOORE'S CAMPAIGN.

Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Burrard received His Majesty's commands to place a large portion of the army in Portugal under the orders of Sir John Moore, to be employed on a particular service, which was announced in a general order on the 8th. of October, 1808, and preparations were accordingly made for entering Spain. Upon arriving in that country the troops were directed to wear the red cockade, in addition to their own, as a compliment to the Spanish nation, and to use every means to maintain the good opinion entertained of them by that high-spirited people.

On the 27th. of October the division under the command of Lieutenant-General the Honourable John Hope, afterwards the Earl of Hopetoun, was put in motion, and after a short stay at Badajoz, resumed the march to Talavera de la Reyna. From this town the column proceeded to the Escorial, seven leagues to the north-west of Madrid, where it arrived and halted on the 22nd. of November. Intelligence was here received of the enemy's movements, and a night march was made to the left by Avila and Peneranda, and finally to Alba de Tormes, where a junction was formed with a detachment from the army under Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore. The troops were shortly afterwards put in motion towards Valladolid, and subsequently to the left, to effect a junction with the division under Lieutenant-General Sir David Baird, which had landed at Corunna.

Previously to this period, the Spanish armies under General Blake, near Bilboa on the left, General Castanos in the centre, and General Palafox lower down the Ebro on the right, had been completely defeated; and Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore consequently made arrangements for a retreat on Portugal by Ciudad Rodrigo; but it having been represented to him that Madrid held out against the French, he was induced to effect a junction with Lieutenant-General Sir David Baird, in order to make a diversion in favour of Madrid, by attacking Marshal Soult on the River Carion.

## SAHAGUN, BENEVENTE, ETC.

DECEMBER, 1808, AND JANUARY, 1809.

THE British commander ascertained that instead of a powerful army covering his advance, not a Spanish soldier was in his front, the enemy was at hand, and those Spanish armies with which he had been directed to co-operate, had been routed and dispersed; at the same time the winter had set in with unusual severity, and the troops were almost constantly marching through snow. Napoleon had three hundred thousand men in Spain, and to confront this host of veterans, Sir John Moore had not twenty-five thousand British troops, yet he boldly advanced and menaced the enemy's lines.

Three leagues from the quarters of the Hussar brigade, consisting of the 7th., 10th., and 15th. Hussars, about eight hundred French dragoons were in cantonments at Sahagun, under Brigadier-General Debelle. About two o'clock on the morning of the 21st. of December, the 15th., with Captain Thornhill and twelve soldiers of the 7th. Hussars, and Lieutenant-General Lord Paget (afterwards Marquis of Anglesey) at their head, moved along the left bank of the Cea, in order to intercept the retreat of the French dragoons from Sahagun. The 10th. marched straight to the town, while Lieutenant-General Lord Paget, with the 15th., endeavoured to turn it. The British hussars arrived in the vicinity of Sahagun before daylight; but a French patrol had given the alarm, and his lordship found the enemy formed without the town. The march had been performed with difficulty, the weather being extremely cold, and from deep snow on the ground, the road was so covered with ice in many places, that the men had to dismount and lead their horses. Between five and six o'clock the advance guard of the 15th. fell in with a French patrol, and took five prisoners, but in consequence of the extreme darkness the rest escaped, and galloping off to Sahagun, gave the alarm, thus preventing the surprise of the enemy. Upon approaching that place shortly before daylight, the French dragoons were discovered formed up

beyond a rugged hollow-way, which was unfavourable for cavalry, and as the 15th. came near the enemy withdrew towards a bridge on their left. In numbers the French were about two to one, but his lordship instantly charged, overthrew them, and captured nearly one hundred and fifty prisoners, including two lieutenant-colonels, and eleven other officers.

Lord Paget, and Lieutenant-Colonel Grant, of the 15th., each received a medal. The conduct of the hussars was commended by the British General, and the regiment was permitted to bear on its appointments the word SAHAGUN.

This attack by Lord Paget on a vastly superior force, so far as numbers were concerned, at Sahagun, in which the enemy were cut to pieces, occasioned Sir John Moore to issue the following order:—

“Head Quarters, Sahagun.

“The different attacks made by parties of cavalry upon those of the enemy, on the march, have given them an opportunity to display a spirit, and to assume a tone of superiority which does them credit, and which the Commander of the Forces hopes will be supported upon more important occasions.

“The attacks conducted by Brigadier-General Stewart, with the 18th. Hussars,\* when upon the Douro, and that by Lieutenant-General Lord Paget upon the enemy's cavalry at this place, are honourable to the British cavalry.

“The Commander of the Forces begs that the Lieutenant-General and Brigadier-General will accept his thanks for their services, and that they will convey them to Brigadier-General

\* This refers to the following gallant act of the 18th. Hussars, in December, 1808, which regiment having been disbanded for some years, has been again added to the cavalry establishment of the army. It cannot be better related than in the noble actor's own words:—“It was the good fortune of a squadron of the 18th. Hussars, to come, at this time, into contact with the enemy. There is a small town, called Rueda, situated about half way between Nava and Tordesillas, in which a detachment of the enemy's cavalry, with some infantry, were quartered. Having caused it to be reconnoitred, and finding that the French seemed quite ignorant of our proximity, I determined to surprise them if possible. With this intention, a squadron proceeded against them on the night of the 12th., and, having made good our entrance unobserved, we soon threw them into confusion. The greater number were sabred on the spot, many were taken, and only a few escaped to inform General Franceschi, who occupied Valladolid with a body of two or three thousand horse, that the British army had not retreated.”—*Story of the Peninsular War, by the late Marquis of Londonderry, G.C.B.*

Slade, and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the cavalry under their command, for their conduct in the different affairs that have taken place."

An order like this naturally made the infantry very desirous to emulate the cavalry, and the opportunity was shortly afterwards afforded. Arrangements had been made for attacking the enemy, but the approach of Napoleon, with an overwhelming force, rendered a retrograde movement necessary; and while the cavalry pickets were skirmishing with the French, the baggage, and several brigades of infantry withdrew. Christmas, with all its social customs was thus dawning, when the troops commenced their retreat. A heavy and continued fall of snow hid the ruts in the roads, caused by the passage of the guns. Officers lost their boots in these ruts, and were compelled to walk barefooted. Two days rest after the reserve had crossed the Esla, enabled measures to be taken to repair the sufferings from the bad roads, a supply of soles and heels having been furnished to each regiment; the officers and men had also the welcome issue of new blankets, and one hundred and fifty pairs of shoes were supplied to each regiment.

On the 24th. of December the hussars fell back to Cal; on the 25th. they arrived at Sahagun, and on quitting that place on the 26th., a considerable force of the enemy's cavalry was seen on some high ground at Majorga. Lord Paget directed Colonel Leigh, of the 10th. Hussars, to dislodge them with two squadrons of his regiment, and the colonel instantly led one squadron forward, the other following in support. Arriving on the top of the hill, he paused a short time for the horses to recover their wind after the ascent, and was exposed to a heavy, but not destructive fire; he afterwards gave the word "Charge," and in five minutes the French were overthrown, many were killed, others wounded, and about a hundred taken prisoners. On this, and all other occasions, the superiority of the British cavalry over the French horsemen, was proved to an extent beyond anything that had been anticipated. The British hussars set superior numbers at defiance, and their temerity was not, in any instance, punished by repulse or defeat.



Continuing the retreat, the cavalry arrived at Benevente on the 27th. of December; they had scarcely entered the town, when an alarm of the approach of a body of French troops was given, and the hussars turned out, but the enemy retired. The infantry continued their retreat on the following morning, but the cavalry remained in the town, with parties watching the fords on the Esla.

Six hundred cavalry of the French imperial guard, commanded by General Lefebre Desnouettes, forded the river near the bridge, and drove back the videttes, when the British pickets, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Otway, (afterwards Lieutenant-General Sir Loftus William Otway,) major of the 18th. Hussars, advanced, and repeatedly charging the enemy's leading squadrons, kept the whole in check until Lieutenant-General Lord Paget and Brigadier-General the Honourable Charles Stewart (afterwards the Marquis of Londonderry) arrived. A detachment of the 10th. Hussars, under Major Quentin, was engaged on this occasion, and evinced signal gallantry. Lord Paget hastened to bring up the regiment from the town: Brigadier-General Stewart placed himself at the head of the pickets, and the ground was obstinately disputed, many charges being made by both sides, the French veterans fighting in a manner worthy of their high reputation. The pickets were ordered to fall back gradually, and the squadrons were repeatedly mingled. Brigadier-General Stewart evinced great personal bravery, and while engaged with a French officer, his sword fell, when Lieutenant-Colonel Otway gave the general his own sword, and recovered the other from the ground. While the fight was taking place on the plain, the hussars formed at the edge of the town, and, on receiving a signal to advance, they galloped forward. The pickets, perceiving the 10th. advancing to support them, gave a loud cheer, and dashed at speed upon their numerous opponents. In an instant the French were broken and driven in great disorder towards the river, which they repassed with precipitation, leaving behind them about thirty men killed, twenty-five wounded, and seventy prisoners. General Lefebre Desnouettes was pursued by the hussars, and refusing to stop when overtaken, he was

cut across the head, and made prisoner by Private Levi Gridsall.

On the 30th. of December the troops came up with the wretched remains of the army under the Marquis de la Romana; instead of these being of any assistance they impeded the march of the British, and exhausted the few resources left, the houses being filled by them.

The retreat presented many harrowing features. An eyewitness, (who still survives,) Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Cadell, of the 28th., which regiment formed part of the reserve, the post of honour in a retreat, states,—“On the arrival of the cavalry at Canberas, about midnight, the reserve immediately moved on, and arrived next morning, 1st. January, 1809, at Bembibre, just as the other division was marching off to Villa Franca. The scene of drunkenness that here presented itself was truly shameful. The stragglers from the preceding division so crowded every house, that there was hardly a place to be had for the wearied reserve. Crowds of half-naked and unfortunate peasants of Romana's army, added to the confusion. On the 2nd., when Sir John Moore left Bembibre, with the reserve and the cavalry, for Villa Franca, Colonel Ross was left with that excellent regiment, the 20th., and a detachment of hussars, to cover the town, while officers were employed in endeavouring to collect the stragglers. A few were got away, but many were so tired and lame from sore feet, that they did not care if the French sabres and bayonets were at their breasts, so completely did most of them give themselves up to despair. The rear-guard was at length forced to retire and leave those unfortunate people to their fate. Some of these poor fellows, who had thought better of it, and were endeavouring to overtake their countrymen, were unmercifully sabred by the French cavalry, many of them in a defenceless state.”

In the same gallant veteran's “Narrative of the Campaigns of the 28th. regiment,” this striking incident occurs:—“The following occurrence had more effect in establishing the good conduct of the reserve than anything that had yet been done. We were formed into close column on the Bembibre side of the river, when our gallant chief, General Paget, in an ex-

cellent address, called the attention of the soldiers to the dreadful and disgraceful scene of yesterday, and the merciless conduct the enemy's cavalry had shewn to many of the stragglers. He told the men that they had become the rear-guard of the army, and upon their sober, steady, and good conduct the safety of the whole depended. Just as the general had finished his admirable and soldier-like address, and after all the orders had been given, and the necessary examples that had been made, two men of the reserve were found in the very act of shamefully plundering a house in the village, and ill-treating the inhabitants. The report was made, and the reserve was instantly formed in square; the culprits were brought out, the general being determined that an example should be made. They were ordered to be hanged upon a tree close to the village. Everything being prepared, the awful sentence was about to be carried into execution; the unfortunate men were in the act of being lifted up to the fatal branch, when an officer of the hussars rode into the square, and reported that the enemy were at that moment advancing. The general said he did not care if the whole French cavalry were coming up, that he would hang those men, who had been guilty of so shameful an outrage. At that instant a few distant shots were heard, and a second officer arrived at full speed with another report. The general then stopped the execution, and turning round to the reserve, said, 'Soldiers! if you promise to behave well for the future, I will forgive those men; say yes, in an instant.' 'Yes!' was said by every one. 'Say it again,' said the general. 'Yes, yes!' was again exclaimed by all. 'Say it a third time.' 'Yes, yes, yes!' and a cheer followed.\* The men were forgiven, the square was reduced, and the 52nd. regiment, under Colonel Barclay, went through the village in double-quick time, and in the most beautiful manner took possession

\* The same incident is related in the "Record of the 52nd. Light Infantry," edited by Captain Moorsom, late captain of that regiment, by which it appears there were three men, one a straggler from the artillery, another from the guards, and the third a man named Lewis, of the 52nd. Lewis generally contrived to have an attack of rheumatism soon after getting into action, and thus got out of sight of his officers for the purpose of filling his haversack. Although a sad plunderer, he was a gallant soldier, and was afterwards killed at Orthes, by the side of the late Duke of Richmond.

of the vineyards on the opposite side of the river, while the remainder of the reserve crossed the bridge under cover of the 95th., and formed on the hill behind the 52nd. By this time the enemy were close upon us, and attacked the 95th. in great force, the cavalry joining in the onset. They were terribly galled by the rifles as they advanced through the village. The 95th. then retired up the road to the right and left, the French being at the same time exposed to a murderous fire from the 52nd., in the vineyards, which completely checked them. The 52nd. then retired up the road, when the enemy were again most gallantly repulsed. The French in this affair lost the general officer commanding the advanced guard, and many men. A column of them was also severely handled by Captain Carthew's guns, and stopped descending the hill on the other side of the river. This kept them quiet until the afternoon of the 5th. of January. Our gallant commander-in-chief was present during this affair, and wherever there was a shot fired was he always to be found. This was the first time the infantry had met the enemy."

Marshal Soult, unwilling to attack, followed the sorely-pressed army with unwonted caution. One night and two days brought the army from Villa Franca to Lugo. All the attacks of the advanced guard of the French upon the rear were repulsed. Notwithstanding this, however, the retreating troops became more and more harassed. When the two bullock cars, containing treasure to the amount of twenty-five thousand pounds, became immovable, the money had to be thrown over the precipice. Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Cadell thus narrates the circumstance:—"On the morning of the 5th. (January, 1809,) the reserve left Nogales. We were detained at a bridge a little way on the road, covering the engineers, who were endeavouring to destroy it, but they did not succeed. The 28th. regiment was now the rear-guard of the reserve, and the flank companies, with a company of the 95th., formed the rear-guard of the regiment. The whole distance was a continued skirmish. About noon we came up with two cars laden with dollars; but the bullocks that drew them being completely exhausted, it was impossible to

save the treasure. Under these circumstances Sir John Moore decided that the whole should be thrown down the mountain, most judiciously considering, that if the casks were broken, the men would make a rush for the money, which would have caused great confusion, and might have cost the lives of many. The rear-guard, therefore was halted; Lieutenant Bennet, of the light company, 28th. regiment, was placed over the money, with strict orders from Sir John Moore to shoot the first person who attempted to touch it.\* It was then rolled over the precipice; the casks were soon broken by the rugged rocks, and the dollars falling out, rolled over the height—a sparkling cascade of silver. The French advanced guard coming up shortly after to the spot, were detained for a time picking up the few dollars that had been scattered on the road.”

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## BATTLE OF CORUNNA.

16TH. JANUARY, 1809.

SIR JOHN MOORE concentrated his army near Lugo, where he determined to give battle. About twelve o'clock in the morning of the 6th. of January, the French appeared on the opposite heights. The British soldiers, full of the national spirit, desired nothing better than to confront them. The troops were immediately under arms, but each looked at the other until evening set in, and it became evident that the day of battle was to be postponed. On the following morning the enemy at daybreak opened a cannonade, which was forthwith returned, and in the space of a few minutes the French fire was silenced. Towards sunset a French column

\* “The rear regiments of the reserve only were present when the money was cast away, and certainly not a man of those left their ranks in the hope of obtaining a portion. This discipline, however, did not extend to the ‘followers,’ who, as soon as they arrived at the spot where the dollars were rolling over the mountain side, at once began a scramble, in which the wife of the regimental master-tailor, Malony, (who was a merry one, and often beguiled a weary march to the men with her tales,) was so successful that her fortune was apparently made. The poor woman went through all her subsequent perils and hardships of the retreat, but on stepping from the boat to the ship’s side on embarking at Corunna, her foot slipped, and down she went, like a shot, and owing to the weight of dollars secured about her person she never rose again.”—*Historical Record of the 52nd. Light Infantry.*

commenced the ascent of the rising ground, and was met by a wing of the 76th.; this regiment gradually retired until joined by the 51st. In the latter Sir John Moore had served as an ensign, and he addressed them briefly, reminding them of that circumstance, and expressing his reliance on their gallantry. The speech, short as it was, produced its effect, and after a few discharges of musketry, they rushed onward with the bayonet, when the enemy was beaten back, leaving on the ground several killed and wounded. After a night spent in anxious expectation, another day dawned, during which the British troops were in position, but no sign of attack was apparent. Sir John did not consider it advisable to advance, in consequence of the superior numbers of the enemy, and on account of their favourable position.

At dark, when large fires illumined the heights, the British re-commenced their retreat, undiscovered by the French until daylight. But little was seen of the enemy until the army arrived at Corunna, where the leading brigades marched in during the afternoon of the 11th. of January, the adjacent villages and suburbs being occupied by the troops. This trying retreat was completed; but there was a disappointment to be experienced. No transports were there to receive the troops. In the evening the foe came up, and occupied a position on the other side of the river Mero. The battle-ground was not marked out until the 12th. of January, and this was the range of hills round the village of Elvino, about a mile from Corunna, on which Sir John Moore resolved to place his army. Before the arrangements were completed, the French were observed moving along the opposite bank of the river. Nothing occurred until the 14th., when a fire of artillery was kept up for a short time. A terrible explosion occurred on that day; a magazine of four thousand barrels of gunpowder, which had been sent from England for the use of the Spaniards, being destroyed, to prevent its falling into the hands of the French. This caused quite a panic in both armies, and, although occurring three or four miles from Corunna, many of the windows in the town were broken.

Fine weather enabled the soldiers to dry their clothes, and to make themselves comparatively comfortable; and during

the afternoon of the 14th. the whole fleet of transports, conveyed by numerous ships of war, appeared in sight. Some slight skirmishing occurred to the right on the 15th. During the afternoon and night of the 15th. the sick, wounded, women, and children were embarked, and on the following day the greater proportion of the artillery was placed on board, the ground not being adapted for that arm. Before going on board the cavalry had to destroy the remainder of their horses, and the sight was naturally most painful. All animals were left on the beach at Corunna;\* but the wife of Sergeant Monday, the orderly-room clerk of the 28th. regiment, is stated to have carried a lap-dog in a basket over her arm throughout the retreat, and brought it to England with her.

About one o'clock in the afternoon of the 16th. of January, the enemy, who had early that day received reinforcements, and who had placed some guns in front of the right and left of his line, was observed to be moving troops towards his left flank, and forming various columns of attack at that extremity of the strong and commanding position which on the morning of the 15th. he had taken in the immediate front of the British. This indication of his intention was immediately succeeded by a rapid and determined attack upon Lieutenant-General Sir David Baird's division, which occupied the right of the position. The first effort of the enemy was met by the 42nd. regiment, and the brigade under Major-General Lord William Bentinck. The village on the right then became an object of obstinate contest. Lieutenant-General Sir David Baird was severely wounded, and shortly after Sir John Moore fell by a cannon-shot. The troops, though not unacquainted with the irreparable loss they had sustained, were not dismayed, and by the most determined bravery, not only repelled every attempt of the enemy to gain ground, but actually forced him to retire, although fresh troops had been brought up in support of those originally engaged.

Finding himself foiled in every attempt to force the right

\* "Our baggage animals were all left on the beach. Major Browne was fortunate enough to get a pig in exchange for a horse. The Major was rather unlucky with his pork; for in the hurry of embarkation, piggy was taken on board one ship, and the Major on board another."—*Lieutenant-Colonel Cadell's Narrative.*

of the position, the enemy endeavoured by numbers to turn it. A judicious and well-timed movement, which was made by Major-General the Honourable Edward Paget with the reserve, that corps having moved out of its cantonments to support the right of the army, by a vigorous attack defeated this intention. The Major-General, having pushed forward the 95th., (rifle corps,) and the first battalion of the 52nd. regiment, drove the foe before him, and in his rapid and judicious advance threatened the left of the enemy's position. This circumstance, with the position of Lieutenant-General Fraser's division, which was calculated to give still further security to the right of the line, induced the enemy to relax his efforts in that quarter. They were then, however, more forcibly directed towards the centre, where they were again successfully resisted by the brigade under Major-General Manningham, forming the left of Sir David Baird's division, and a part of that under Major-General Leith.

Upon the left the enemy at first contented himself with an attack upon the pickets, which in general maintained their ground. Seeing, therefore, his efforts unavailing on the right and centre, he appeared determined to render the attack upon the left more serious, and succeeded in obtaining possession of the village through which the great road to Madrid passes, and which was situated in front of that part of the line. From this post he was soon expelled, with considerable loss, by a gallant attack of some companies of the second battalion of the 14th. regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Nicolls. Before five in the evening, not only had every attack upon the British position been successfully repelled, but ground had been gained in all points, a more forward line being occupied than at the commencement of the action. Eventually the enemy confined his operations to a cannonade, and the fire of his light troops, with a view to draw off his other corps. At six o'clock the firing entirely ceased. The different brigades were re-assembled on the ground they occupied in the morning, and the pickets and advanced posts resumed their original stations.

The corps chiefly engaged were the brigades under Major-Generals Lord William Bentinck, Manningham, and Leith,



and the brigade of guards under Major-General Warde. Major-General Hill and Brigadier-General Catlin Craufurd, with their brigades on the left of the position, ably supported their advanced posts. The brunt of the action fell upon the 4th., 42nd., 50th., and 81st. regiments, with parts of the brigade of guards, and the 26th. regiment.

About ten at night the troops quitted their position, and marched to their respective points of embarkation in the town and neighbourhood of Corunna. The pickets remained at their posts until five in the morning of the 17th., when they were withdrawn unperceived by the French. The embarkation proceeded rapidly, and, with the exception of the brigades under Major-Generals Hill and Beresford, which were destined to remain on shore until the movements of the enemy should become manifest, the whole were afloat before daylight. The brigade of Major-General Beresford, which was alternately to form the rear-guard, occupied the land front of the town of Corunna, whilst that of Major-General Hill was stationed in reserve on the promontory behind the town.

Soon after eight o'clock in the morning of the 17th. of January the French light troops moved towards the town, and almost immediately occupied the heights of St. Lucia, which command the harbour. Notwithstanding this circumstance, and the manifold defects of the place, there being no apprehension that the rear-guard could be forced, and the disposition of the Spaniards appearing to be good, the embarkation of Major-General Hill's brigade was commenced and completed by three in the afternoon. Major-General Beresford withdrew his corps from the land front of the town soon after dark, which, with all the wounded that had not been previously moved, were embarked before one on the morning of the 18th.

Lieutenant-General Hope's estimate of the loss of the British commander is numbered among military household words. "I need not expatiate," writes the gallant general, "on the loss the army and his country have sustained by his death. His fall has deprived me of a valuable friend, to whom long experience of his worth had sincerely attached me. But it is chiefly on public grounds that I must lament

the blow. It will be conversation of every one who loved or respected his manly character, that, after conducting the army through an arduous retreat with consummate firmness, he has terminated a career of distinguished honour by a death that has given the enemy additional reason to respect the name of a British soldier. Like the immortal Wolfe, he is snatched from his country at an early period of a life spent in her service; like Wolfe, his last moments were gilded by the prospect of success, and cheered by the acclamation of victory; like Wolfe also, his memory will for ever remain sacred in that country which he sincerely loved, and which he had so faithfully served."

Sir William Napier has thus described the hero's death:—"Sir John Moore, while earnestly watching the result of the fight about the village of Elvino, was struck on the left breast by a cannon-shot. The shock threw him from his horse with violence, but he rose again in a sitting posture, his countenance unchanged, and his stedfast eye still fixed upon the regiments engaged in his front, no sign betraying a sensation of pain. In a few moments, when he was satisfied that the troops were gaining ground, his countenance brightened, and he suffered himself to be taken to the rear. Being placed in a blanket for removal, an entanglement of the belt caused the hilt of his sword to enter the wound, and Captain Hardinge attempted to take it away altogether, but with martial pride the stricken man forbade the alleviation,—he would not part with his sword in the field."

Wrapped in a military cloak the warrior's remains were consigned to their resting-place, by the officers of his staff, in the citadel of Corunna. The guns of the enemy paid his funeral honours, and Marshal Soult evinced the respect he bore to departed valour, by chivalrously raising a monument to his memory. It may be added that the soldiers of the 9th. Foot dug the grave on the rampart, and the well-known lines by the Rev. Charles Wolfe are as truthful as they are poetic.

CORUNNA, inscribed on the colours of the following regiments commemorates this memorable campaign:—Grenadier Guards, 1st., 2nd., 4th., 5th., 6th., 9th., 14th., 20th., 23rd., 26th., 28th., 32nd., 36th., 38th., 42nd., 43rd., 50th., 51st., 52nd.,

59th., 71st., 81st., 91st., and 92nd. Foot, and Rifle Brigade. The several regiments, and their commanding officers, composing the army under Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore at Corunna, were as follow:—

7th. Light Dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Vivian; 10th. Light Dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Leigh; 15th. Light Dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Grant; 18th. Light Dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Jones; 3rd. Light Dragoons, (King's German Legion,) Major Burgwesel; Artillery, Colonel Harding; Engineers, Major Fletcher; Waggon Train Detachment, Lieutenant-Colonel Langley; 1st. Foot Guards, first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Cocks, third battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Wheatley; 1st. Foot, third battalion, Major Muller; 2nd.,\* first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Iremonger; 4th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Wynch; 5th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie; 6th., first battalion, Major Gordon; 9th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron; 14th., second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Nicolls; 20th., Lieutenant-Colonel Ross; 23rd., second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Wyatt; 26th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell; 28th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Belson; 32nd., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Hinde; 36th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Burn; 38th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable Charles Greville; 42nd., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Stirling; 43rd., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Gifford, second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Hull; 50th., first battalion, Major Charles James Napier;† 51st., Lieutenant-Colonel Darling; 52nd., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Barclay, second

\* The following remarkable circumstance occurred in the 2nd. Foot:—“Samuel Evans, a private in the Grenadier Company of the 2nd. Foot, was carried off amongst the wounded at Corunna. He arrived in England, and died in the military hospital at Plymouth, on the 30th. of January, 1809. On a *post mortem* examination being made, it was discovered that he had been shot through the heart, and yet had survived sixteen days.”—*Curiosities of War*.

† Major (afterwards Sir Charles) Napier received five terrible wounds at Corunna, and but for the aid of a generous French drummer, would there have been killed; he was made a prisoner, and his fate being long unknown, he was mourned for as dead by his family. In the battle of Busaco, a bullet struck his face, and lodged behind the ear, splintering the articulation of the jawbone; yet with this dreadful hurt, he made his way, under a fierce sun, to Lisbon, more than one hundred miles! Returning from France, after the battle of Waterloo, the ship sunk off Flushing, and he only saved himself by swimming to a pile, on which

battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel John Ross; 59th., second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Fane; 60th., second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Codd, fifth battalion, Major Davy; 71st., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Denis Pack; 76th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Symes; 79th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron; 81st., second battalion, Major Williams; 82nd., Major McDonald; 91st., first battalion, Major Douglas; 92nd., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Napier; 95th., (rifle regiment,) first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Beckwith, second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Wade; Staff Corps Detachment, Lieutenant-Colonel Nicolay; first light battalion King's German Legion, Lieutenant-Colonel Leonhart, second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Halkett.

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### BATTLE OF TALAVERA DE LA REYNA.

27TH. AND 28TH. JULY, 1809.

WHEN the British forces had returned to England, Corunna, Bilbao, and all the most important places on the northern coast of Spain, fell under the French sway. Saragossa was besieged a second time, and after a defence unequalled perhaps in modern military history, was compelled to capitulate. Marshal Soult quitted Galicia, entered Portugal, and obtained an entrance into Oporto. In April Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wellesley, with another British army, disembarked at Lisbon, and advanced on Oporto.

Although no medal was granted for the passage of the Douro, on the 12th. of May, 1809, the exploit was a highly brilliant one. The British commander was desirous of passing the river to drive the French from Oporto; but the stream was deep, rapid, and more than three hundred yards in width,

he clung until a boat carried him off, half drowned, for the pile was too large to climb up; he had caught it during the recession of a wave, and was overwhelmed by each recurring surge. He escaped cholera, and a second shipwreck off the Indus, and marvellously recovering from the stroke of a rocket at Kurrachee, was again firm on horseback, and conducted a dangerous war to a glorious termination. On the 13th. of September, 1842, whilst in Scinde, he was observing the practice of a rocket-train, when one of the fiery missiles burst, rocket and shell together, and tore the calf of his right leg open to the bone; but neither the bone itself nor the great artery was injured, and the wound was instantly stitched. His decease did not occur until some years afterwards.

and ten thousand French veterans guarded the opposite shore. The passage was however effected in the following manner. A Portuguese barber had crossed the river in a skiff, and a British staff officer (Colonel Waters) aided by the barber and the prior of Amarante, traversed the stream and returned in half an hour with three large barges. Between ten and eleven o'clock an officer and twenty-five soldiers of the 3rd. Foot entered the first boat, crossed the stream unobserved, and took post in a large unfinished building on the banks of the river, designated the seminary, which was surrounded by a wall extending to the water on each side of it. In this manner a lodgment was made in the midst of the enemy's army without being noticed. A second and a third boat followed, but scarcely had the men from the latter reached the shore, when a sudden burst of alarm was heard amidst the French troops, and a furious attack was made by their cavalry, infantry, and artillery, upon the seminary. The 3rd. Foot stood their ground bravely, and singly resisted the French legions until supported by the 48th. and 66th. British and 16th. Portuguese regiments. Meanwhile Lieutenant-General the Honourable Edward Paget had fallen dangerously wounded, and Major-General Hill commanded in the seminary. A fierce conflict of musketry was maintained, the French artillery played on the building, the British guns on the other side of the river opened their fire, and the struggle soon became violent. Meanwhile some citizens crossed the river with several large boats, additional forces were enabled to pass over, and ultimately the French were driven from Oporto with the loss of five hundred men killed and wounded, in addition to about seven hundred left in the hospitals. The 14th. Light Dragoons, 3rd., 48th., and 66th. regiments were permitted to bear Douro on their colours and appointments.

The British commander subsequently pursued Marshal Soult's army through the wild and mountainous districts of Portugal, but, in consequence of Marshal Victor having defeated General Cuesta, was compelled to resist from following Marshal Soult; and having formed a junction with the Spanish general, the combined forces proceeded along the valley of the Tagus, and took up a strong position at Talavera. The enemy, in the

course of the 24th., 25th., and 26th., collected all his forces between Torrijos and Toledo, leaving but a small corps of two thousand men in that place. The united army consisted of the corps of Marshal Victor, of that of General Sebastiani, and of seven or eight thousand men, the guards of Joseph Bonaparte, and the garrison of Madrid; and it was commanded by him, aided by Marshals Jourdan and Victor, and General Sebastiani.

General Cuesta's advanced guard was attacked near Torrijos on the 26th. of July, and compelled to fall back, the general retiring with his army on that day to the left bank of the Alberche, Lieutenant-General Sherbrooke continuing at Casalegos, and the French at Santa Olalla.

It then became obvious that the enemy intended to try the result of a general action, for which the best position appeared to be in the neighbourhood of Talavera; and General Cuesta having taken up this position on the morning of the 27th., Lieutenant-General Sherbrooke was directed to retire with his corps to its station in the line, leaving Major-General M'Kenzie with a division of infantry and a brigade of cavalry, as an advanced post in a wood on the right of the Alberche, which covered the left flank of the British.

The position taken up by the troops at Talavera extended rather more than two miles; the ground was open upon the left where the British army was stationed, and it was commanded by a height, on which was, in *echelon* and in second line, a division of infantry, under the orders of Major-General Hill. Between this height and a range of mountains still further upon the left, there was a valley, which was not at first occupied, as it was commanded by the height before mentioned, whilst the mountain range appeared too distant to have any influence upon the expected action.

Spanish troops composed the right, which extended immediately in front of the town of Talavera down to the Tagus. This part of the ground was covered by olive trees, and was much intersected by banks and ditches. The high-road leading from the bridge over the Alberche, was defended by a heavy battery in front of a church, which was occupied by Spanish infantry. All the avenues to the town were defended in a

similar manner; the town was occupied, and the remainder of the Spanish infantry was formed in two lines behind the banks on the roads which led from the town and the right, to the left of the British position. In the centre, between the two armies, there was a commanding spot, on which a redoubt had been commenced, with some open ground in the rear. Here Brigadier-General Campbell was posted with a division of infantry, supported in his rear by Major-General Cotton's brigade of dragoons, and some Spanish cavalry.

At about two o'clock on the 27th. of July the enemy appeared in strength on the left bank of the Alberche, and manifested an intention to attack Major-General M'Kenzie's division. The attack was made before they could be withdrawn, but the troops, consisting of Major-General M'Kenzie's and Colonel Donkin's brigades, with Major-General Anson's brigade of cavalry, and supported by Lieutenant-General Payne with the other four regiments of cavalry, in the plain between Talavera and the wood, withdrew in good order, but with some loss, particularly by the second battalion of the 87th., and the second battalion of the 31st. regiment, in the wood.

In his despatch, Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Sir Arthur Wellesley, K.B., stated, "Upon this occasion the steadiness and discipline of the 45th. regiment, and of the fifth battalion of the 60th., were conspicuous; and I had particular reason for being satisfied with the manner in which Major-General M'Kenzie withdrew his advanced guard."

As the day advanced, the French appeared in larger numbers on the right of the Alberche, and it was apparent that they were advancing to a general attack upon the combined army. Major-General M'Kenzie continued to fall back gradually upon the left, where he was placed in the second line, in the rear of the guards, Colonel Donkin being posted in the same situation further upon the left, in the rear of the King's German Legion.

The enemy immediately commenced his attack in the dusk of the evening, by a cannonade upon the left of the allied position, and by an attempt with his cavalry to overthrow the Spanish infantry, posted, as before stated, on the right. This attempt entirely failed. Early in the night he pushed

a division along the valley on the left of the height occupied by Major-General Hill, of which a momentary possession was obtained, but it was instantly regained by an attack with the bayonet. Another attempt was repeated during the night, but failed, and again at daylight in the morning of the 28th. of July, by two divisions of infantry, which was repulsed by Major-General Hill. In these different affairs the 29th., and the first battalion of the 48th. regiment, gained especial notice. Many brave officers and soldiers were lost in the defence of this important point, and Major-General Hill was slightly wounded.

A general attack by the enemy's whole force was made about noon, upon the whole of that part of the position occupied by the British army. Sir Arthur, in consequence of the repeated attempts upon the height on his left by the valley, had placed there two brigades of British cavalry, supported in the rear by the Duc d'Albuquerque's division of Spanish cavalry. The enemy then placed light infantry in the range of mountains on the left of the valley, which were opposed by a division of Spanish infantry, under Lieutenant-General De Bassecourt. The general attack began by the march of several columns of infantry into the valley, with a view to attack the height occupied by Major-General Hill. These columns were immediately charged by the 1st. German Light Dragoons and 23rd. Dragoons, under the command of Major-General Anson, directed by Lieutenant-General Payne, and supported by Brigadier-General Fane's brigade of heavy cavalry; and although the 23rd. Dragoons suffered considerable loss, the charge had the effect of preventing the execution of that part of the enemy's plan. At the same time he directed an attack upon Brigadier-General Alexander Campbell's position in the centre of the combined armies, and on the right of the British. This attack was most successfully repulsed by Brigadier-General Campbell, supported by the king's regiment of Spanish cavalry and two battalions of Spanish infantry: the enemy's cannon being taken by the Brigadier-General, who mentioned particularly the conduct of the 97th., the second battalion of the 7th., and the second battalion of the 53rd. regiment. *The remainder of the division consisted of the first battalion of the 48th. The 2nd battalion of detachment 42 (comprised of the 3rd battalion of the 60th.*



An attack was also made at the same time upon Lieutenant-General Sherbrooke's division, which was on the left and centre of the first line of the British army. This attack was most gallantly repulsed by a charge with bayonets by the whole division; but the brigade of guards, on the right, having advanced too far, they were exposed on their left flank to the fire of the enemy's battery, and of their retiring columns. The division was obliged to retire towards the original position, under cover of the second line of Major-General Cotton's brigade of cavalry, which had been moved from the centre, and of the first battalion of the 48th. regiment. This regiment had also been moved from its original position on the heights, as soon as the advance of the guards was observed, and it was formed on the plain and advanced upon the enemy, covering the formation of Lieutenant-General Sherbrooke's division.

Shortly after the repulse of this general attack, in which apparently all the enemy's troops were employed, he commenced his retreat across the Alberche, which was conducted in the most regular order, and was effected during the night, leaving in the hands of the British twenty pieces of cannon, ammunition, tumbrils, and some prisoners.

The attacks were principally if not entirely directed against the British troops. The Spanish commander-in-chief, his officers, and troops, manifested every disposition to render assistance to their allies, and those of them who were engaged did their duty; but the ground which they occupied was so important, and its front at the same time so difficult, that Sir Arthur Wellesley did not think it proper to urge them to make any movement on the left of the enemy, while he was engaged with the troops more immediately under his command.

Such a prolonged action against more than double the number of the British could not be sustained without great loss of valuable officers and soldiers, but the casualties of the enemy were much larger. Entire brigades of French infantry were destroyed, and the battalions that retreated were much reduced in number. The French loss was estimated at ten thousand men. Generals Lapisse and Morlot were killed; Generals Sebastiani and Boulet were wounded.

Major-General M'Kenzie, who had distinguished himself on the 27th., Brigadier-General Langwerth, of the King's German Legion, and Brigade-Major Beckett, of the Coldstream Guards, were killed.

During a pause in the second day's fight both armies went to the banks of the small stream, a tributary of the Tagus, for water, which flowed through a part of the battleground. The men approached each other and conversed like old acquaintances, even exchanging their canteens and wine-flasks. In the words of the author of "The Bivouac" (the Rev. W. H. Maxwell, Prebendary of Balla):—"All asperity of feeling seemed forgotten. To a stranger they would have appeared more like an allied force than men hot from a ferocious conflict, and only gathering strength and energy to re-commence it anew. But a still nobler rivalry for the time existed; the interval was employed in carrying off the wounded, who lay intermixed upon the hard-contested field; and, to the honour of both be it told, that each endeavoured to extricate the common sufferers, and remove their unfortunate friends and enemies without distinction. Suddenly the bugles sounded, the drums beat to arms; many of the rival soldiery shook hands and parted with expressions of mutual esteem, and in ten minutes after they were again at the bayonet's point."

In his "Victories of the British Armies," the same reverend author relates this untoward event:—"As victory is ever damped by individual suffering, an event well calculated to increase the horrors of a battle-field occurred, that cannot be recollected without the liveliest sorrow for those who suffered. From the heat of the weather, the fallen leaves were parched like tinder, and the grass was rank and dry. Near the end of the engagement both were ignited by the blaze of some cartridge-papers, and the whole surface of the ground was presently covered with a sheet of fire. Those of the disabled who lay on the outskirts of the field managed to crawl away, or were carried off by their more fortunate companions who had escaped unhurt; but, unhappily, many gallant sufferers, with 'medicable wounds,' perished in the flames before it was possible to extricate them."

The following regiments were specially noticed in the des-

patch:—The cavalry, particularly Major-General Anson's brigade; the 29th. regiment; first battalion of the 48th.; the second battalions of the 7th. and 53rd. regiments; the 97th.; the first battalion of detachments; the second battalion of the 31st.; the 45th.; and fifth battalion of the 60th. The advance of the brigade of guards was also highly commended.

On the 27th. the British had seven officers, two sergeants, and one hundred and twenty-two rank and file killed; twenty-four officers, seventeen sergeants, one drummer, and four hundred and sixty-five rank and file wounded; three officers, one sergeant, two drummers, and two hundred and two rank and file missing. On the 28th. the casualties were twenty-seven officers, twenty-six sergeants, four drummers, six hundred and thirteen rank and file killed; one hundred and seventy-one officers, one hundred and forty-eight sergeants, fifteen drummers, three thousand and seventy-two rank and file wounded; six officers, fourteen sergeants, seven drummers, and four hundred and eighteen rank and file missing.

This victory gained over the French army, commanded by Joseph Buonaparte in person, occasioned great joy in England, and Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wellesley was raised to the peerage, by the title of Viscount Wellington. TALAVERA is borne on the regimental colours and appointments of the 3rd. Dragoon Guards; 4th., 14th., and 16th. Light Dragoons; Coldstream and Scots Fusilier Guards; 3rd., 7th., 24th., 29th., 31st., 40th., 45th., 48th., 53rd., 60th., 61st., 66th., 83rd., 87th., and 88th. Foot.

The following regiments were engaged at the battle of Talavera de la Reyna, on the 27th. and 28th. July, 1809:—

3rd. Dragoon Guards, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Granby Calcraft; 4th. Dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Edward Somerset; 14th. Light Dragoons, Colonel Samuel Hawker; 16th. Light Dragoons, Major the Honourable Lincoln Stanhope; 23rd. Light Dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Seymour; 1st. Light Dragoons, King's German Legion, Lieutenant-Colonel Arentschild; Royal British Artillery, Lieutenant-Colonel Framingham, Royal German Artillery, Major Hartineau; the whole artillery being under Brigadier-General Howorth; Royal Engineers, Lieutenant-Colonel Fletcher; Royal Staff Corps, Major Dundas; Coldstream

Guards, first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Hulse; 3rd. Guards, first battalion, Colonel the Honourable Edward Stopford; 3rd. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel Muter; 7th., second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir William Myers, Bart.; 24th., second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Drummond; 29th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel White; 31st., second battalion, Major Watson; 40th., first battalion, Major Thornton; 45th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Guard; 48th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Donellan, second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Duckworth; 53rd., second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Bingham; 60th., fifth battalion, Major Davy; 61st., first battalion, Colonel Saunders; 66th., second battalion, Captain Kelly; 83rd., second battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon; 87th., second battalion, Major Gough; 88th., first battalion, Major Vandeleur; 97th., first battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Lyon; first battalion of Detachments,\* Lieutenant-Colonel Bunbury, 3rd. Foot; second battalion of Detachments,\* Lieutenant-Colonel Copson, 5th. Foot; first and second light and first line battalions King's German Legion, Major Bodecker; second line battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Brauns; fifth line battalion, Captain Hummelberg; seventh line battalion, Major Burger.

After this defeat the enemy continued to keep a rear-guard of ten thousand men on the heights on the left of the Alberche; the extreme fatigue of the troops, the want of provisions, and the numbers of wounded to be taken care of, prevented Viscount Wellington moving from this position. Brigadier-General Craufurd arrived with his brigade (first battalions of the 43rd., 52nd., and 95th.,) on the 29th. of July, early in the morning, having marched fifty-two miles in twenty-six hours, a wonderful proof of the energy of British soldiers.

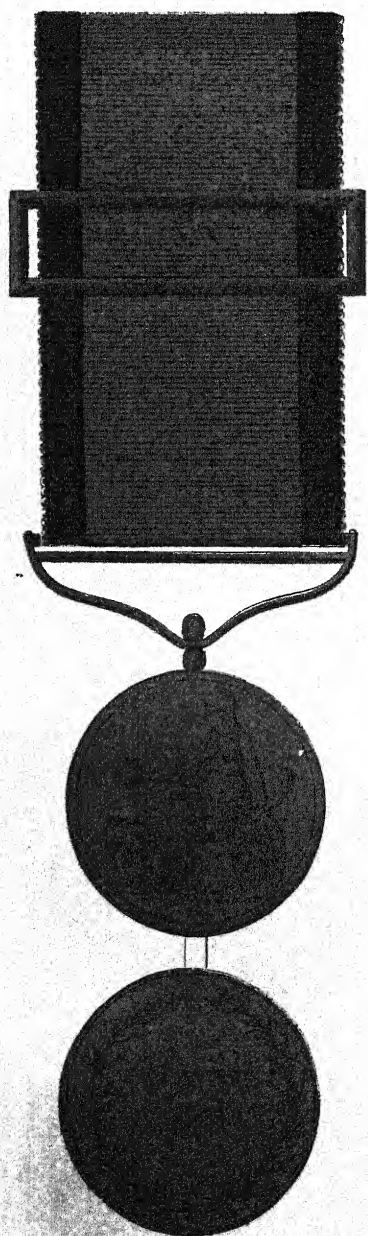
#### GOLD MEDAL FOR TALAVERA.†

IN consequence of the victories gained in the Peninsula during 1808 and 1809, two gold medals were struck for

\* These two battalions were formed on the 1st. of February, 1809, and consisted of detachments that had been left in Portugal, belonging to the regiments composing the division of the army which had marched into Spain under the orders of Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore.

† The illustration is copied from a gold Talavera medal given to Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards General Sir Samuel) Hawker, which has







presentation to such superior officers as had distinguished themselves in action; the same medals were afterwards conferred for military services in other portions of the world. No corps were returned in the list for medals, which had not been engaged. This, by the Duke of Wellington's despatches, appears to have been the rule.

A notification appeared in the "London Gazette," dated Horse Guards, 9th. September, 1810, stating that His Majesty had been graciously pleased to command that, in commemoration of the brilliant victories obtained by divisions of his Army over the enemy in the Battles of Roleia and Vimiera, also in the several instances where the cavalry had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves against the enemy in Spain, and in the battles of Corunna and Talavera de la Reyna, the Officers of the Army present on those occasions should enjoy the privilege of wearing a Medal, and His Majesty having approved of the Medal which had been struck, was pleased to command that it should be worn by the General Officers, suspended by a Ribbon of the colour of the Sash, with a blue edge, round the neck; and by the Commanding Officers of Corps, (not being of rank inferior to Lieutenant-Colonel,) and the Chiefs of Military Departments, attached by a ribbon of the same colour to the button-hole of their uniform. His Majesty was also pleased to command that the Medals which would have been conferred upon the Officers who had fallen at or died since the above-named actions, should, as a token of respect for their memories, be deposited with their respective families.

These medals were alike, except in size. On the obverse, Britannia, wearing a helmet, is seated on the globe; in her right hand extended a wreath of laurel, and in her left a palm branch; to her right the British lion, and on the left

been kindly lent to the author by his daughter, Mrs. Houndle. This distinguished officer was engaged in several actions in the Peninsula, and commanded the 14th. Light Dragoons at Talavera, where he was wounded. He had previously been appointed aide-de-camp to the king. His dates of promotion were Major-General 4th. June, 1811, Lieutenant-General 19th. July, 1821, and General on the 28th. of June, 1838. He died, after a service of nearly sixty years, on the 27th. of December following. General Sir Samuel Hawker, G.C.H., was Colonel of the 8rd. Dragoon Guards, and Captain of Yarmouth Castle, in the Isle of Wight; and while holding the rank of Major-General, served for some years on the staff of Great Britain.



a round shield charged with the crosses of the union banner. The reverse has a wreath of laurel, within which the name of the event and the year were engraved, thus—Roleia and Vimiera, 1808; or Corunna, 1809; or Talavera, 1809; or Nivelle, Nive, etc. The name and rank of the officer were engraved on the edge. The large medal, of the size of that granted for Maida, was for general officers; in full dress it was worn from the neck, to a crimson ribbon with blue edges. The small medal, (of which an illustration is given,) attached to the ribbon by a gold swivel, with a gold buckle above, was conferred on field and other officers.

At this period the rules and regulations regarding the issue of medals were, 1st.—Medals are only to be bestowed upon occasions of great importance or of peculiar brilliancy. 2nd.—Medals of a larger size are conferred upon General Officers, including Brigadiers, who wear them suspended by a ribbon round the neck.\* Medals of a smaller size are bestowed upon Colonels, and Officers of the senior ranks. 3rd.—No General or other Officer is considered to be entitled to receive a Medal, except he has been personally and particularly engaged upon the occasion, in commemoration of which this distinction is bestowed, and has been selected by the Commander of the Forces upon the spot, and has been reported by him to have merited the distinction, by very conspicuous services. 4th.—The Commander of the Forces (after he shall

\* Some of the general officers applied to Viscount Wellington to ascertain, whether, upon ordinary occasions, they might not wear the ribbon of the medal at the button-hole, instead of round the neck;—"This," his lordship remarked, "would be a more convenient way of wearing it, and they would wear it consequently more frequently, which would be desirable." In the reply to the general officers, dated Cartaxo, 3rd. February, 1811, his lordship acquainted them that an answer had been received from Lieutenant-Colonel Torrens, Military Secretary, "stating that the General Officers should wear the ribbon of the medal at their button-hole, the same as the Field Officers, in undress; but when the medal is worn itself, it should be round the neck."

The medal for Maida was worn at the button-hole, and that mode is alluded to in a letter from the Marquis of Wellington to Earl Bathurst, dated Frenada, 20th. April, 1813. "To Earl Bathurst.—We must have the orders of the Secretary of State for any alteration in the mode of wearing the medal by the General Officers. It may do very well for an admiral to wear his medal round his neck on his quarter-deck, but we on horseback ought to wear it always at our button-hole. Indeed this is the common practice in all distributions of this description, and was the rule at first on the grant of the medal for the battle of Maida; and I don't know why it was altered."

have been informed of the intention of Government to bestow medals) shall transmit to the Secretary of State for the War Department, and to the Commander-in-Chief, returns signed by himself, specifying the names and ranks of those Officers whom he shall have selected as particularly deserving. 5th. —The Commander of the Forces, in making this selection of the most deserving Officers, will consider his choice restricted to the under-mentioned ranks, as it is found to be absolutely necessary that some limitation should be put upon the grant of this honour.

The rank and situations held by Officers, to render them eligible for the distinction of Medals, were, General Officers; Commanding Officers of Brigades; Commanding Officers of Artillery or Engineers; Adjutant-General and Quartermaster-General; their Deputies having the rank of Field Officers, and their Assistants having the same rank, and being at the head of the Staff, with a detached corps or distinct division of the Army; Military Secretary, having the rank of Field Officers; Commanding Officers of Battalions, Corps equivalent thereto, and Officers who have succeeded to the actual command during the engagement, in consequence of the death or removal of the original Commanding Officer.

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## CAPTURE OF MARTINIQUE AND GUADALOUPE.

FEBRUARY, 1809, AND JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 1810.

IN January, 1809, the armament which had been assembled at Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, under the command of Lieutenant-General (afterwards Sir George) Beckwith, commanding in the Leeward Islands, proceeded against Martinique, off which island, then in the possession of France, it arrived on the 30th. of January. The troops landed in two divisions. The first division, under Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, consisting of between six and seven thousand men, and the second, numbering over three thousand men, under Major-General Frederick Maitland, landed near St. Luce and Point Solomon, in the afternoon of the 30th., without opposition,

and notwithstanding the difficulties of the country, occupied a position on the banks of the Grande Lezarde River before daybreak on the 31st., after a night march of seven miles.

On the 1st. of February, the 7th. Royal Fusiliers, and the light companies of the brigade which were in advance, drove a body of the enemy from Morne Bruno to the heights of Surirey, where the enemy on the 2nd. of February made a determined stand. A sharp action ensued, in which British valour was conspicuously displayed, and the French were driven from their position with considerable loss. Batteries were subsequently erected, and the siege of Fort Bourbon was commenced with such vigour that the garrison surrendered on the 24th. of February. Amongst the trophies captured on this occasion were three eagles and several brass drums.

In the action of the 1st. of February, the division under Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost had one captain, one sergeant, and thirty-five rank and file killed; one captain, two subalterns, five sergeants, six drummers and buglers, and one hundred and eighty-three rank and file wounded. In the attack on the heights of Surirey, the first battalion of the 7th. Royal Fusiliers, 8th. Foot, 23rd. Royal Welsh Fusiliers, detachment 1st. West India regiment, and the light battalion, had one field officer, one captain, three sergeants, and forty-two rank and file killed; two field officers, two captains, two subalterns, one staff, three sergeants, one drummer, and one hundred and twenty-six rank and file wounded.

Having thus captured this valuable island, Lieutenant-General Beckwith congratulated the troops, and stated in his official despatch, that "the command of such an army will constitute the pride of my future life. To these brave troops, conducted by Generals of experience, and not to me, their King and Country owe the sovereignty of this important colony; and I trust that by a comparison of the force which has defended it, and the time in which it has fallen, the present reduction of Martinique will not be deemed eclipsed by any former expedition."

The 7th., 8th., 13th., 15th., 23rd., 25th., (flank companies,) 60th., 63rd., 90th. Foot, and 1st. West India regiment have the word MARTINIQUE on their colours, and the gold medal

was conferred on the general and regimental commanding officers, according to the practice of the service at this period.

An expedition, under Lieutenant-General Sir George Beckwith, against Guadalupe, the only island remaining to the French in the West Indies, was embarked in January, 1810. The expedition rendezvoused at Prince Rupert's, Dominica; and on the morning of the 28th. of January, a landing was effected by the first division, at the Bay of St. Marie. The second division sailed on the 26th. of that month, and anchored at the Saints until the 29th., when it proceeded towards Guadalupe, and menaced the enemy's defences at the Three Rivers. A landing was effected near the village of Les Vieux Habitans during the night without opposition. The French appeared in force on some high open ground, when the 15th. Foot turned their right flank, the Royal West Indian Rangers the left, and the 13th. Light Infantry advanced against the front, and the enemy was speedily forced from his ground.

Shortly afterwards the conquest of the island was completed, and the achievement reflected great credit on the troops employed. In general orders, dated 6th. February, it was announced that "The Commander of the Forces returns his thanks to the officers of all ranks, for their meritorious exertions, and to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, for the cheerfulness with which they have undergone the fatigues of a march, difficult in its nature, through the strongest country in the world, and the spirit they have manifested on all occasions to close with the enemy."

The loss of the army under Lieutenant-General Sir George Beckwith, consisted of four lieutenants, three sergeants, and forty-five rank and file killed; Brigadier-General Wale, one major, nine captains, four lieutenants, one staff, eighteen sergeants, three drummers, and two hundred and thirteen rank and file wounded. These casualties were sustained by the Royal Artillery, 1st. Royals, 13th., 15th., 46th., 60th., (second and fourth battalions,) 63rd., 96th., Royal York Rangers, West India Rangers, York Light Infantry Volunteers, 1st., 3rd., and 4th. West India regiments.

GUADALOUPE is now borne on the colours of the 15th., 63rd., 90th., and 1st. West India regiment; and medals were

granted to the superior officers, both for the capture of that island and also of Martinique. The medal was like that for Talavera, already described at page 67. When the War Medal was issued, bars were inscribed with the names of these two islands.

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## BATTLE OF BUSACO.

SEPTEMBER 27TH., 1810.

THE advance of Marshal Massena in the summer of 1810, was preceded by the proud but vain boast, that, in pursuance of the imperial orders, he would drive the English leopards into the sea, and plant the eagles on the tower of Lisbon. His first operations were attended with success. Ciudad Rodrigo surrendered to Marshal Ney on the 10th. of July. After the gallant but hazardous combat between the light division and the French advance on the 24th. of that month, they passed the Coa in overwhelming numbers, when the retrograde movement and concentration of the allies behind the Mondego immediately commenced. Almeida having surrendered on the 27th. of August, the allies were again withdrawn to their former positions. The French line of invasion was not finally indicated until the middle of September, when they commenced their advance into Portugal along the right bank of the Mondego. Lieutenant-General Viscount Wellington, notwithstanding their vastly superior numbers, determined to give them battle in the position of Busaco, a lofty and rugged sierra or mountain ridge, extending about eight miles in a northerly direction from the Mondego, and crossing their line of march.

On the night of the 26th. of September, the combined British and Portuguese armies assembled in line on the precipitous sierra, named after the village and convent of Busaco. The second (Lieutenant-General Hill's) division occupied the extreme right, guarding the declivities towards the Mondego; next to it the fifth (Major-General Leith's) division; then the third division, having the first (Lieutenant-General Sir Brent Spencer's) division on its left, occupying the highest part of the ridge; then the light (Brigadier-General Craufurd's)

division at the convent of Busaco; and the fourth (the Honourable Major-General Cole's) division on the extreme left. In front, within cannon-shot and in full view of the British position, was assembled Massena's army, seventy thousand strong, occupying the opposite range of mountains. The day passed over peaceably, but during the evening and night, small parties of skirmishers, passing up the dark ravines, attempted to establish themselves close to the British line, and kept all upon the alert.

The position of Busaco, although formidable from the steepness and rugged character of its face, was too extensive to be completely occupied by the twenty-five thousand British, and the same number of Portuguese troops, which formed the allied army, and there was an interval of about two miles between the left of the fifth and the right of the third division, which occupied the lowest and most accessible part of the position.

An hour before day, Lord Wellington went through the ranks on foot. He passed in comparative silence, for the English soldiers seldom indulge in those boisterous demonstrations of joy so common with the troops of other nations, and indeed rarely are known to hurrah, except when closing with the enemy; but wherever he was recognised, his presence was felt as the sure presage to another victory, to be gained by the men whom he had already led in so many fields of triumph. To be beaten when *he* commanded, seemed, in the opinion of his soldiers (which is no bad criterion to judge by) next to impossible.

At six in the morning of the 27th. of September, two desperate attacks were commenced upon the British position, the one on the right, the other on the left of the highest point of the sierra. The assault upon the right was made by two divisions of the second corps, on that part of the sierra occupied by the third division of infantry. One division of French infantry arrived at the top of the ridge, when it was attacked in the most gallant manner, by the 88th. Connaught Rangers, under the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, and the 45th., under the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel Meade, and by the 8th. Portuguese regiment, under

the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, directed by Major-General (afterwards Sir Thomas) Picton. These three corps advanced with the bayonet, and drove the enemy's division from the advantageous ground it had obtained. The other division of the second corps attacked further on the right, by the road leading by St. Antonio di Cantaro, also in front of Major-General Picton's division; but was repulsed before it could reach the top of the ridge, by the 74th. Highlanders, under the command of the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel French, and the brigade of Portuguese infantry, under Colonel Champelmond, directed by Colonel Henry Mac Kinnon; Major-General Leith also moved his left to support Major-General Picton, and aided in the defeat of the French in this post, by the third battalion of the Royals, and the first and second battalions of the 38th. regiment.

His Lordship stated in his despatch, that he never witnessed a more gallant attack than that made by the 38th., 45th., and 8th. Portuguese regiment, on the enemy's division, which had reached the ridge of the sierra. Major William Smith, of the 45th., was killed.

Meanwhile, on the left, the enemy attacked with three divisions of infantry, of the sixth corps, that part of the sierra occupied by the left division, commanded by Brigadier-General Craufurd, and by the brigade of Portuguese infantry, under Brigadier-General (afterwards Sir Denis) Pack. "One division of infantry," wrote Viscount Wellington, "only made any progress towards the top of the hill, and they were immediately charged with the bayonet by Brigadier-General Craufurd with the 43rd., 52nd.,\* and 95th. regiments, and the 3rd. Caçadores, and driven down with immense loss."

\* "Several prisoners were taken by the regiment, and amongst others the French General Simon. He surrendered himself to Private James Hopkins, of Captain Robert Campbell's company, who receives a pension of twenty pounds per annum, as the reward of his bravery on this occasion. Private Harris, of the 52nd., also shared in the capture, and a pension was awarded to him in 1843, by the late Viscount Hardinge, then the Secretary at War, on the representation of Lieutenant-General Sir J. F. Love, who was present at the capture of General Simon, and who delivered him as a prisoner to Brigadier-General Craufurd."—*Historical Record of the 52nd. Light Infantry, by Captain Moorsom.*

Captain Moorsom also relates the following medal incident:—"When the head of Simon's column appeared in the act of deploying, and the 52nd. advanced to charge, Captain William Jones, more commonly known

Besides these attacks, the light troops of the two armies were engaged throughout the 27th. The loss sustained by the enemy was immense, two thousand being killed upon the field of battle, with a corresponding amount of wounded. Captain Lord Fitz Roy Somerset, (the late Lord Raglan,) Aide-de-Camp to the British Commander; Captain the Marquis of Tweeddale, of the 1st. Foot Guards, Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General; Major Charles Napier, of the first battalion 50th., (severely;) and Captain George Napier, of the first battalion 52nd., were amongst the wounded. The total British casualties amounted to five officers, five sergeants, and ninety-seven rank and file killed; thirty-five officers, (including eight field officers,) twenty-one sergeants, three drummers, and four hundred and thirty-four rank and file wounded.

BUSACO on the colours of the 1st., 5th., 9th., 38th., 43rd., 45th., 52nd., 74th., 83rd., 88th., and Rifle Brigade, commemorates this achievement.

There is a charming episode related by Sir William Napier, of the orphan girl, which belongs to this battle:—"Meanwhile an affecting incident, contrasting strongly with the savage character of the preceding events, added to the interest of the day. A poor orphan Portuguese girl, about seventeen years of age, and very handsome, was seen coming down the mountain, and driving an ass loaded with all her property, through the midst of the French army. She had abandoned her dwelling in obedience to the proclamation, and now passed over the field of battle with a childish simplicity, totally unconscious of her perilous situation, and scarcely understanding which were the hostile and which the friendly troops, for no man on either side was so brutal as to molest her."

On the following day there was some skirmishing on different points of the line, but the French, taught by experience to appreciate the strength of the position and the valour of its defenders, did not renew the assault. Towards evening their

in the division by the name of 'Jack Jones,' a fiery Welshman, rushed upon the Chef de Bataillon, who was in the act of giving the word to his men, and killed him on the spot with a blow of his sword. Jones immediately cut off the medal with which the major was decorated, and appropriated it to himself."



columns were seen in movement to their right, and their whole army was shortly on the march to turn the British left flank.

The allies then commenced their retreat, and before daylight on the 29th., the position of Busaco was evacuated, the divisions moving on their previously-arranged lines of retreat towards the lines of Torres Vedras. This stupendous line of entrenchments and fortifications, had, by Viscount Wellington's orders, been constructed, with admirable skill and immense labour, for the defence of Lisbon. The French general, who had followed the retreat through a wasted and deserted country, with the confident expectation that he was driving the British to their ships, found his progress arrested on the 10th. of October by this barrier, which he soon perceived to be impregnable, and which extended twenty-nine miles from the Tagus to the sea. Within the lines, supplies were abundant, and with the exception of some employment in strengthening the defensive works, amusements, exercises, and field sports of every attainable kind were the occupation of all ranks, who engaged in them as if no hostile interruption was to be apprehended. The allied army was at this time augmented by fresh regiments from England, and a sixth division of infantry added to it.

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## BATTLE OF BARROSA.

5TH. MARCH, 1811.

WELLINGTON's generals, like those under the illustrious Marlborough, did not often have the opportunity of fighting independent battles. What Wynendale was to Webb in Queen Anne's reign, Almaraz was to Lord Hill, Albuhera to Lord Beresford, and Barrosa to Lieutenant-General Thomas Graham, (afterwards Lord Lynedoch,) who commanded the British forces in Cadiz at the above period. In consequence of Marshal Soult having proceeded into Estremadura, Marshal Victor was left to carry on the siege of Cadiz, and a combined attack on the rear of the blockading army at Chiclana was determined upon. Accordingly a British force of about three thousand men, under Lieutenant-General Graham, and a body

of seven thousand troops, commanded by General La Pena, were selected for this expedition. The forces having first proceeded to Gibraltar, afterwards disembarked at Algeiras, on the 23rd. of February, and being all united at Tarifa, marched thence on the 28th. of that month.

General Zayas pushed a strong body of Spanish troops across the river Santi Petri near the coast on the 1st. of March, threw a bridge over, and formed a *tête-de-pont*. This post was attacked by the enemy on the nights of the 3rd. and 4th. of March, who was repulsed, though the Spaniards sustained considerable loss. On the 5th. of March, 1811, Lieutenant-General Graham, and the army under his command, arrived on the low ridge of Barrosa, and gained a decisive victory over the French army, under Marshal Victor, composed of the two divisions of Generals Rufin and Laval.

The circumstances under which Lieutenant-General Graham found himself placed were such as compelled him to attack the very superior force, in point of numbers, of his opponents. The allied army, after a night-march of sixteen hours from the camp near Veger, arrived on the morning of the 5th. at the low ridge of Barrosa, about four miles to the southward of the mouth of the Santi Petri river. This height extends inland about a mile and a half, continuing on the north the extensive heathy plain of Chiclana. A great pine forest skirts the plain, and circles round the height at some distance, terminating down to Santi Petri, the intermediate space between the north side of the height and the forest being uneven and broken. A well-conducted and successful attack on the rear of the enemy's lines near Santi Petri, by the vanguard of the Spaniards, under Brigadier-General Ladrizabel, opened the communication with the Isla de Leon, and Lieutenant-General Graham received General La Pena's directions to move down from the position of Barrosa to that of the Torre de Bermeja, about half way to the Santi Petri river, in order to secure the communication across the river, over which a bridge had been recently constructed. This latter position occupied a narrow woody ridge, the right on the sea cliff, the left falling down to the Almanza creek on the edge of the marsh. An easy communication between the western points of these two

positions was kept up by a hard sandy beach. Lieutenant-General Graham, while on the march through the wood towards the Bermeja, received intelligence that the enemy had appeared in force on the plain of Chielana, about fifty miles from Tarifa, and was advancing towards the heights of Barrosa.

This position being considered by the British general as the key to that of Santi Petri, he immediately countermarched in order to support the troops left for its defence, and the alacrity with which this manœuvre was executed, served as a favourable omen. It was, however, impossible in such intricate and difficult ground to preserve order in the columns, and time was never afforded to restore it entirely. Before the British could get quite disentangled from the wood, the troops on the Barrosa hill were seen returning from it, while the enemy's left wing was rapidly ascending. His right wing at the same time stood on the plain, on the edge of the wood, within cannon-shot. A retreat in the face of such a foe, already within reach of the easy communication by the sea-beach, must have involved the whole allied army in all the danger of being attacked during the unavoidable confusion of the different corps arriving nearly at the same time on the narrow ridge of the Bermeja.

Lieutenant-General Graham relying on the heroism of British troops, and regardless of the number and position of the enemy, determined on an immediate attack. Major Duncan soon opened a powerful battery of ten guns in the centre. Brigadier-General Dilkes with the brigade of Guards, Lieutenant-Colonel Browne's (of the 28th.) flank battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Norcott's two companies of the second Rifle corps, and Major Acheson with a part of the 67th. Foot, (separated from the regiment in the wood,) formed on the right. Colonel Wheatley's brigade, with three companies of the Coldstream Guards, under Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson, (separated likewise from his battalion in the wood,) and Lieutenant-Colonel Barnard's flank battalion, formed on the left.

As soon as the infantry was thus hastily got together, the guns advanced to a more favourable position, and kept up a most destructive fire. The right wing proceeded to the attack of General Rufin's division on the hill, while Lieutenant-

Colonel Barnard's battalion, and Lieutenant-Colonel Bushe's detachment of the 20th. Portuguese, were warmly engaged with the enemy's tirailleurs on the left.

General Laval's division, notwithstanding the havoc made by Major Duncan's battery, continued to advance in very imposing masses, opened his fire of musketry, and was only checked by that of the left wing. The left wing now advanced firing; a most determined charge by three companies of the Guards and the 87th. regiment, supported by all the remainder of the wing, decided the defeat of General Laval's division. The eagle of the 8th. regiment of light infantry, which suffered immensely, and a howitzer, rewarded this charge, and remained in possession of Major Gough, (now General Viscount Gough,) of the 87th. regiment.\* These attacks were zealously supported by Colonel Belson with the 28th. foot, and Lieutenant-Colonel Prevost with a part of the 67th. regiment.

A reserve formed beyond the narrow valley, across which the enemy was closely pursued, next shared a similar fate, and was routed by the same means. Meanwhile the right wing was not less successful; the French, confident of success, met Brigadier-General Dilkes on the ascent of the hill, and the contest was sanguinary: but the undaunted perseverance of the brigade of Guards, of Lieutenant-Colonel Browne's battalion, and of Lieutenant-Colonel Norcott's, and Major Acheson's detachment, overcame every obstacle, and General Rufin's division was driven from the heights in confusion, leaving two pieces of cannon in the hands of the victors..

In less than an hour and a half from the commencement of the action, the enemy was in full retreat. The retiring division met, halted, and seemed inclined to form; but a new and more advanced position of the British artillery quickly dispersed it. The exhausted state of the troops rendered pursuit impossible, and a position was occupied on the eastern side of the hill. When the conflict had ceased, Lieutenant-General Graham remained on the field of battle; but the

\* In the midst of the engagement, Sergeant Patrick Masterson, of the 87th., seized and kept possession of the eagle of the 8th. French regiment of light infantry, (which was the first taken in action since the commencement of the Peninsular war,) and for this His Royal Highness the Prince Regent promoted him to an ensigncy in the Royal York Light Infantry Volunteers; he was subsequently removed to the 87th. regiment.

Spanish general, La Pena, who had looked on while this obstinate battle was fought, did not seize the favourable opportunity which the valour of the British troops had put into his hands, of striking a severe blow at the remains of the French army retreating in disorder. The inactivity of the Spaniards continuing, the British proceeded on the following day to Cadiz.

Among the prisoners were the General of Division Ruffin, the General of Brigade Rousseau,\* the latter being mortally wounded; the Chief of the Staff, General Bellegarde; an aide-de-camp of Marshal Victor; the Colonel of the 8th. regiment, and several other officers. The prisoners amounted to two general officers, one field officer, nine captains, eight subalterns, and four hundred and twenty rank and file. The enemy lost about three thousand men in killed, wounded, and prisoners, while that of the British amounted to seven officers, six sergeants, two drummers, and one hundred and eighty-seven rank and file killed; and fifty-five officers, forty-five sergeants, four drummers, and nine hundred and thirty-six rank and file wounded. Six pieces of cannon were captured.

Both Houses of Parliament unanimously voted their thanks to Lieutenant-General Graham, and the officers and men under his command, for this victory, and their valour and ability were highly applauded by the nation.

Barrosa is emblazoned on the colours of the Grenadier, Cold-

\* An interesting anecdote has been preserved of this officer's canine friend:—After the battle of Barrosa, the wounded of both nations were, from want of means of transport, necessarily left upon the field of action the whole night and part of the following day. General Rousseau, a French general of division, was of the number; his dog, a white one of the poodle kind, which had been left in quarters upon the advance of the French force, finding that the general returned not with those who escaped from the battle, set out in search of him; found him at night in his dreary resting-place, and expressed his affliction by moans, and by licking the hands and feet of his dying master. When the fatal crisis took place, some hours after, he seemed fully aware of the dreadful change, attached himself closely to the body, and for three days refused the sustenance which was offered him. Arrangements having been made for the interment of the dead, the body of the general was, like the rest, committed to its honourable grave; the dog lay down upon the earth which covered the beloved remains, and evinced by silence and deep dejection his sorrow for the loss he had sustained. The English commander, General Graham, whose fine feelings had prompted him to superintend the last duties due to the gallant slain, observed the friendless mourner, drew him, now no longer resisting, from the spot, and gave him his protection, which he continued to him until his death, many years after, at the general's residence in Perthshire."—*Maxwell's Victories of the British Army.*

stream, and Scots Fusilier Guards; 28th., 67th., and 87th. regiments; and Rifle Brigade. The following corps were engaged in this battle:—2nd. Hussars, King's German Legion; Royal Artillery; Royal Engineers; 1st. Foot Guards, 2nd. battalion; Coldstream Guards, 2nd. battalion; 3rd. Foot Guards, 2nd. battalion; 9th. Foot, 1st. battalion, (flank companies;) 28th. Foot, 1st. battalion; 47th. Foot, 2nd. battalion, (flank companies;) 67th. Foot, 2nd. battalion; 82nd. Foot, 2nd. battalion, (flank companies;) 87th. Foot, 2nd. battalion; Rifle Brigade, 2nd. and 3rd. battalions; 20th. Portuguese Regiment; and one company of the Royal Staff Corps.

#### MEDAL FOR BARROSA.

THE medal for this battle was similar to that granted for the victories commencing with Roleia, and the following Memorandum, dated Horse Guards, November, 1811, was published in the "London Gazette:"—

"The Prince Regent having been graciously pleased, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, to command that, in commemoration of the brilliant victory obtained over the enemy by a division of His Majesty's army, under the command of Lieutenant-General Graham, at Barrosa, on the 5th. of March, 1811, the undermentioned officers of the army, present upon that occasion, should enjoy the privilege of bearing a Medal, and His Royal Highness having approved of the medal which has been struck, is pleased to command, that it should be worn by the General Officers, suspended by a ribbon, of the colour of the sash, with a blue edge, round the neck, and by the Commanding Officers of corps and detachments, and the Chiefs of Military Departments, attached by a ribbon of the same colour to the button-hole of their uniform:—

Lieutenant-General Thomas Graham; Major-General William Thomas Dilkes; Colonel William Wheatley, 1st. Foot Guards; Lieutenant-Colonels Charles P. Belson, 28th. Foot, William Augustus Prevost, 67th. regiment, The Hon. T. Cranley Onslow, 3rd. Foot Guards, Andrew F. Barnard, 95th. Rifle regiment, John Macdonald, Deputy Adjutant-General, Edward Sebright, 1st. Foot Guards, John Frederick Brown, 28th. regiment, Amos Godsill Norcott, 95th. Rifle regiment, The Hon. Charles M.

Cathcart, Deputy Quartermaster-General, Richard Bushe, 20th. Portuguese regiment, Alexander Duncan, Royal Artillery, and Hugh Gough, 87th. regiment; and Major A. F. Baron Bussche, 2nd. Light Dragoons, King's German Legion.

By the command of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty.

FREDERICK, Commander-in-Chief.

HENRY TORRENS, Lieutenant-Colonel and Military Secretary."

## BATTLE OF FUENTES D' ONOR.

5TH. MAY, 1811.

At this period the sixth division of the British army had invested Almeida, and a force of British and Portuguese, under Marshal Beresford, was employed in the Alentejo and Spanish Estremadura, which compelled the enemy to abandon Campo Mayor. Olivenza was next besieged by Marshal Beresford, and re-taken on the 15th. of April, 1811, after which he broke ground before Badajoz.

Marshal Massena had reached Ciudad Rodrigo on the 25th. of April, and having concentrated his forces, crossed the Agueda at that place on the 2nd. of May, and advanced towards the allied army, posted between that river and the Coa, in order to blockade Almeida, which place, it was ascertained, was but ill supplied with provisions for its garrison. Upon the approach of the French, the British light division and cavalry fell back upon Fuentes d' Onor, where three other divisions were posted, and in which position Viscount Wellington determined to receive the attack of the enemy.

The village of Fuentes d' Onor, (Fountain of Honor,) is situated on low ground, at the bottom of a ravine, with an old chapel and some buildings on a craggy eminence, which overhang one end. Shortly after the enemy had formed on the ground, on the right of the Duas Casas, in the afternoon of the 3rd., they attacked the village with a large force, which was gallantly defended by Lieutenant-Colonel Williams, of the fifth battalion of the 60th. regiment, in command of the light infantry battalions, belonging to Major-General Picton's division,

supported by the light infantry battalion in Major-General Nightingall's brigade, commanded by Major (afterwards Sir Robert) Dick, of the 42nd. Royal Highlanders, and the light infantry battalion in Major-General Howard's brigade, commanded by Major Archibald M'Donnell, of the 92nd. regiment, and the light infantry battalion of the King's German Legion, commanded by Major Charles Aly, of the fifth battalion of the Line, and by the second battalion of the 83rd. regiment, under Major Henry William Carr.

These troops maintained their position, but the British commander seeing the repeated efforts which were made to obtain possession of the village, and being fully aware of the advantage the enemy would derive therefrom in their subsequent operations, the place was reinforced successively by the 71st., under the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel Cadogan, and the 79th., under Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron, and the 24th., under Major Chamberlaine. The former, at the head of the 71st., charged the French, and drove them from the part of the village of which they had obtained a momentary possession. About this time Lieutenant-Colonel Williams was wounded, and the command devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron, of the 79th. regiment. The contest continued until night, when the British troops remained in possession of the whole. The light infantry battalions and the 83rd. regiment were subsequently withdrawn, leaving only the 71st. and 79th. regiments in the village, with the second battalion of the 24th. to support them.

During the 4th. of May the enemy reconnoitred the positions which the British had occupied on the Duas Casas river, and that night General Junot's corps was moved from Almeida to the left of the position occupied by the sixth corps, opposite to Fuentes d' Onor. From the course of the reconnoissance it was considered that an attempt would be made to obtain possession of that place, and of the ground occupied by the troops behind the village, by crossing the Duas Casas at Poza Velho, and in the evening the seventh division, under Major-General Houstoun, was moved to the right, in order to protect, if possible, that passage.

On the morning of Sunday, the 5th. of May, the eighth



corps appeared in two columns, with all the cavalry on the opposite side of the valley of the Duas Casas to Poza Velho; and as the sixth and ninth corps also made a movement to their left, the light division, which had been brought back from the neighbourhood of Almeida, was sent with the cavalry, under Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton, Bart., (now Field-Marshal Viscount Combermere, G.C.B.,) to support Major-General Houstoun, while the first and third divisions made a movement to their right, along the ridge between the Turon and Duas Casas rivers, corresponding to that of the sixth and ninth corps, on the right of the latter river.

Major-General Houstoun's advanced guard, consisting of the 85th., under Major M'Intosh, and the 2nd. Portuguese Caçadores, under Lieutenant-Colonel Nixon, was attacked by the eighth corps, and compelled to retire, which was done in good order, although with some loss. The eighth corps being thus established in Poza Velho, the enemy's cavalry turned the right of the seventh division between that place and Nave d'Aver, and charged.

The charge of the advanced guard of the French cavalry was met by two or three squadrons of the different regiments of British Dragoons, and the enemy was driven back, Colonel La Motte, of the 13th. Chasseurs, and some prisoners being taken. The main body was checked, and obliged to retire, by the fire of Major-General Houstoun's division, the Chasseurs Britanniques and a detachment of the Duke of Brunswick's Light Infantry behaving in the most steady manner. Notwithstanding the repulse of this charge, Viscount Wellington determined to concentrate his force towards the left, and to move the seventh light and the other two divisions, and the cavalry from Poza Velho towards Fuentes d'Onor. The former place and neighbourhood had been occupied in the hope of maintaining the communication across the Coa by Sabugal, as well as to provide for the blockade, which objects, it became obvious, were incompatible with each other, and that which was deemed the least important was abandoned; the light division was placed in reserve in the rear of the left of the first, and the seventh on some commanding ground beyond the Turon, which protected the right flank and rear of the first division, besides

covering the communication with the Coa, and prevented that of the French with Alameda by the roads between the Turon and that river.

Upon this occasion the movement of the troops, although under very critical circumstances, was well conducted by Major-General Houstoun, Brigadier-General Craufurd, and Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton. The seventh division was covered in its passage of the Turon by the light, under Brigadier-General Craufurd, and this last, in its march to join the first division, by the British cavalry. The British position thus extended on the high ground from the Turon to the Duas Casas. The seventh division on the left of the former, covered the rear of the right; the first division, in two lines, was on the right; Colonel Ashworth's brigade, in two lines, in the centre; and the third division, in two lines, on the left. The light division and British cavalry in reserve; and the village of Fuentes d'Onor in front of the left. Don Julian's infantry joined the seventh division in Frenada, and he was sent with his cavalry to endeavour to interrupt the enemy's communication with Ciudad Rodrigo. The efforts on the right part of the British position, after it was occupied as above described, were confined to a cannonade, and to some cavalry charges upon the advanced posts.

One of these was repulsed by the pickets of the first division, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hill, of the 3rd. regiment of Guards; but as they were falling back, they did not see the direction of another in sufficient time to oppose it, and the Lieutenant-Colonel was taken prisoner, many men were wounded and some captured, before a detachment of the British cavalry could move up to their support. The second battalion of the 42nd., under Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Blantyre, also repulsed a charge of the cavalry directed against them. They likewise attempted to push a body of light infantry down the ravine of the Turon to the right of the first division, which was repulsed by the light infantry of the Guards, under Lieutenant-Colonel Guise, aided by five companies of the 95th., under Captain O'Hare.

Throughout this day the enemy's principal effort was again directed against Fuentes d'Onor, and notwithstanding that the whole of the sixth corps was at different periods employed to

attack this village, the French were never able to gain more than a temporary possession. It was defended by the 24th., 71st., and 79th. regiments, under the command of Colonel Cameron; these troops were supported by the light infantry battalions in the third division, commanded by Major Woodgate; the light infantry battalions in the first division, commanded by Majors Dick, M'Donnell, and Aly; the 6th. Portuguese Caçadores, commanded by Major Pinto; by the light companies in Colonel Champelmond's Portuguese brigade, under Colonel Sutton; and those in Colonel Ashworth's Portuguese brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Pynn; and by the pickets of the third division, under the command of the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel Trench. Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron was severely wounded in the afternoon, and the command in the village devolved upon the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel Cadogan.

In addition to the foregoing, the troops in Fuentes d'Onor were supported, when pressed by the enemy, by the 74th. regiment, under Major Russell Manners, and the 88th. Connaught Rangers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, belonging to Colonel Mac Kinnon's brigade; on one of these occasions the 88th., with the 71st. and 79th., under the command of Colonel Mac Kinnon, charged the enemy, and drove them through the village.

This prolonged contest again lasted in this quarter until night, when the British still held their post, and from that time there was no fresh attempt made on any part of their position. Although the actions were partial, yet they were very severe, and the casualties were also. The enemy had a great superiority of force, and their loss was likewise great; they left four hundred killed in the village of Fuentes d'Onor.

On the evening of the 3rd. of May, the British had two officers, one sergeant, and nineteen rank and file killed; fifteen officers, ten sergeants, one drummer, and one hundred and forty-five rank and file wounded. The Portuguese had one sergeant and thirteen men killed; seven officers, one sergeant, and twenty-five men wounded. On the 5th. of May the casualties, British and Portuguese, amounted to nine officers, thirteen sergeants, three drummers, and one hundred and seventy-three rank and file killed; fifty-nine officers, sixty-one

sergeants, four drummers, and nine hundred and six rank and file wounded; seven officers, nine sergeants, nine drummers, and two hundred and sixty-nine rank and file missing.

The following regiments bear the words FUENTES D'ONOR.\*—14th. and 16th. Light Dragoons; the 24th., 42nd., 43rd., 45th., 52nd., 60th., 71st., 74th., 79th., 83rd., 85th., 88th., 92nd., and Rifle Brigade.

On the 8th. of May the enemy retired to the woods between Espeja, Gallegos, and Fuentes d'Onor, in which position the whole army was collected by the following day, with the exception of that part of the second corps which continued opposite Alameda; but during the night of the 9th. the whole broke up and retired across the Azava, covering their retreat by their numerous cavalry, and on the following day the whole crossed the Agueda, leaving Almeida to its fate.

#### MEDAL FOR BUSACO AND FUENTES D'ONOR.

THE customary medal was granted for the above battles, the pattern being like that for the other actions in the Peninsula. The following letter from Viscount Wellington to the Earl of Liverpool, dated Quinta de S. Joao, July 11th., 1811, gives his views regarding the distribution of medals:—

"I have had the honour of receiving your Lordship's letter of the 22nd. of June, in which your Lordship desires to have my opinion as to the restrictions which it may be expedient to put upon the grant of medals to British officers, for distinguished merit displayed upon such occasions as the battles of Vimeiro, Corunna, Talavera, and Barrosa.

"My opinion has always been, that the grant of a medal to an individual officer ought to have been founded originally, partly on the importance of the occasion or action which it was intended to commemorate, and partly on the share which

\* Parliament was not asked for its thanks for this action, for in a letter to the Earl of Liverpool, from Viscount Wellington, dated Quinta de S. Joao, June 25th., 1811, he says, "Your Lordship may rest assured that I am perfectly satisfied that you acted right in not proposing a vote in Parliament on the battle of Fuentes. The business would have been different if we had caught the garrison of Almeida; but, as it happened, the government were quite right. Indeed, people in England appear to me to be so much elated by any success, and so much depressed by any temporary check, that I feel difficulty in describing the state of our affairs, and am always apprehensive that the government will appreciate too highly what we do."—*The Wellington Dispatches.*

the individual officer had had in the action to be commemorated; and that medals should have been granted for important actions only, and to those engaged in them in a conspicuous manner, whatever might be their rank in the service. It was decided, however, that medals should be granted on the same principle only, but following strictly the example of the grant of medals to the navy, notwithstanding that an action on shore is very different from an action at sea; and the merit of the different classes of individuals is likewise entirely different. At the same time, this principle was departed from in some of the grants made.

"If the principle adopted in the grant of medals to the navy is adhered to in the grant of medals to officers of the army, and that medals are to be granted to general officers, and Lieutenant-Colonels commanding regiments, on an occasion to be commemorated, because, on a similar occasion, they would be granted to Admirals and Captains of ships of the line, it is difficult to restrict the grant, or make a selection of officers to whom they should be granted to commemorate the battles at Busaco and Fuentes d' Onor, if government determine that these actions should be commemorated in that manner. If, however, that principle is departed from, it is not difficult to make out a list of the names of officers already reported to your Lordship, who were at the head of corps or detachments upon these occasions, and who had a conspicuous share in the event which it is the intention of the government to commemorate in this manner. It is not probable, however, that the adoption of this principle will decrease the number of those to whom the honour would be granted; but, as I have already represented to your Lordship, I don't think this important; that which is important in the establishment of the principle on which the grant of this honour should be made, is, that every officer should feel that he shall receive the mark of distinction, if he should be in the place to distinguish himself, and should act in the manner to deserve to be distinguished, whatever may be his military rank. It may be contended for by me, that the officers of the British army don't require an honour of this description to stimulate their exertions, and that the grant of the medal is therefore useless; but, however,

those who contend for this principle must admit that a selection of those who have had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves in an action is a less objectionable mode of granting it than the grant of it by classes, whether the individuals composing those classes have distinguished themselves or not.

"I have now the honour to enclose lists of the names of the officers who, on the principle of selection, ought, in my opinion, to receive medals for the battles of Busaco and Fuentes d' Onor, if government think proper to distinguish these battles by medals. In respect to the battle of Albuhera, I was not there, and I am not able to give an opinion upon it. One brigade of the fourth division of infantry, however, was not in the action, nor Brigadier-General Madden's brigade of cavalry. The brunt of the action was on the right; but some of the corps of infantry, I believe, and certainly General Otway's brigade of cavalry, on the left, were not engaged. At all events, these troops were not engaged, as far as I understand, in a greater degree than the whole army were at Busaco, and every corps on the field at Fuentes d' Onor.

"I mention these circumstances only to point out to your Lordship, that in every action on shore, however severe, there must be some to whose lot it does not fall to have an opportunity to distinguish themselves; and that the principle of selection, without reference to ranks, ought to be adopted in every instance of the grant of medals to the army."

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## BATTLE OF ALBUHERA.

16TH. MAY, 1811.

EARLY in May the first siege of Badajoz was commenced by the British, and whilst the operations against that fortress were in progress, Marshal Soult quitted Seville, and advanced to its relief. The portion\* of the allied army under Marshal

\* The following British troops were engaged at the battle of Albuhera. Cavalry, under Major-General the Honourable Sir William Lumley:—3rd. Dragoon Guards, 4th. Dragoons, and 13th. Light Dragoons. Second division, Major-General the Honourable W. Stewart:—3rd. Foot, first battalion, 31st., second battalion, 48th., second battalion, 66th., second battalion, 60th., one company fifth battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Colborne; 29th. Foot, 48th.,

Sir William Beresford, moved forward to meet him, and took up a position in front of Albuhera.

At nine o'clock in the morning of the 16th. of May, the enemy commenced his attack, and after a strong and gallant resistance by the Spanish troops, he gained the heights upon which they had been formed; meanwhile the division of the Honourable Major-General William Stewart had been moved up to support them, and that of Major-General Hamilton brought to the left of the Spanish line, and formed in contiguous close columns of battalions, to be available in any direction. The Portuguese brigade of cavalry, under Brigadier-General Otway, remained at some distance on the left, to check any attempt that might be made below the village.

Nearly at the commencement of the battle a heavy storm of rain came on, which, with the smoke from the firing, rendered it impossible to discern anything distinctly. This, with the nature of the ground, had been extremely favourable to the attacking columns. The right brigade of Major-General Stewart's division, under Lieutenant-Colonel Colborne, (now Field-Marshal Lord Seaton,) first came into action, and behaved in the most gallant manner, and, finding that the enemy's column could not be shaken by fire, proceeded to attack it with the bayonet; while thus in the act of charging, a body of Polish lancers, which the thickness of the atmosphere and the nature of the ground had concealed, (and which was, besides, mistaken by those of the brigade when discovered for Spanish cavalry, and therefore not fired upon,) turned it, and being thus attacked unexpectedly in the rear, was unfortunately broken, and suffered immensely. The second battalion of the 31st. regiment, under the command of Major L'Estrange, alone held its ground against all the *colonnes en masse*, until the arrival of the third brigade under Major-General Hoghton.

first battalion, 57th., first battalion, 60th., one company fifth battalion, Major-General Hoghton; 28th. Foot, second battalion, 34th., second battalion, 39th., second battalion, 60th., one company fifth battalion, Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel Abercromby. Fourth division, Major-General the Honourable Lowry Cole:—27th. Foot, first battalion, 40th., first battalion, 97th. Queen's Own, 60th., one company fifth battalion, Colonel Kemmis; Fusilier Brigade,—7th. Foot, first and second battalions, 23rd., first battalion, Brunswick Oels, one company. First and second light battalions German Legion, Major-General Baron Charles Alten.

The conduct of this brigade was most conspicuously gallant, and that of the second brigade, under the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel Abercromby, was not less so. Major-General Hoghton, cheering on his men to the charge, fell pierced with wounds.

Although the principal attack was on this point of the right, a continual attempt was also made upon that part of the original front at the village and bridge, which were defended in the most gallant manner by Major-General Baron Alten, and the light infantry brigade of the German Legion, whose conduct, in every point of view, was reported as "conspicuously good." The enemy's cavalry, on his infantry attempting to force the right, had endeavoured to turn it; but the able manœuvres of Major-General the Honourable William Lumley, commanding the allied cavalry, though vastly inferior in point of numbers, foiled the design. Major-General the Honourable George Lowry Cole, seeing the attack, very judiciously brought up his left a little, marched in line to attack the enemy's left, and arrived most opportunely to contribute, with the charges of the brigades of Major-General Stewart's division, to force the enemy to abandon his situation, and retire precipitately, and to take refuge under his reserve. Here the Fusilier brigade, consisting of two battalions of the 7th. and one of the 23rd. Fusiliers, immortalized itself.\* So numerous were the casualties,

\* No description can surpass that given by Sir William Napier:—"Such a gallant line issuing from the midst of the smoke, and rapidly separating itself from the confused and broken multitude, startled the enemy's heavy masses, which were increasing and pressing onwards as to an assured victory; they wavered, hesitated, and then vomiting forth a storm of fire, hastily endeavoured to enlarge their front, while a fearful discharge of grape, from all their artillery, whistled through the British ranks. Myers was killed, Cole, and the three colonels, Ellis, Blakeney, and Hawkshawe fell wounded, and the Fusilier battalions, struck by the iron tempest, reeled and staggered like sinking ships. But suddenly and sternly recovering, they closed on their terrible enemies, and then was seen with what a strength and majesty the British soldier fights. In vain did Soult, by voice and gesture, animate his Frenchmen; in vain did the hardest veterans, extricating themselves from the crowded columns, sacrifice their lives to gain time for the mass to open out on such a fair field; in vain did the mass itself bear up, and, fiercely striving, fire indiscriminately upon friends and foes, while the horsemen, hovering on the flanks, threatened to charge the advancing line. Nothing could stop that astonishing infantry. No sudden burst of undisciplined valour, no nervous enthusiasm weakened the stability of their order; their flashing eyes were bent on the dark columns in their front; their measured



that Captain Stainforth's company of the 23rd. Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was commanded, at the close of the action, by Corporal Thomas Robinson. The enemy was pursued by the Allies to a considerable distance, and as far as it was considered prudent, with his immense superiority of cavalry, and Marshal Beresford contented himself with seeing him driven across the Albuhera.

Commencing at nine o'clock, the battle continued without interruption until two in the afternoon, when the enemy having been driven over the Albuhera, for the remainder of the day there was but cannonading and skirmishing.

It was observed during this sanguinary battle, that the British dead, particularly the 57th. regiment, were lying as they fought, in ranks, and every wound was in the front.\* This corps here gained the name of the *Die-hards*.

On this memorable day the loss was very severe, but the French casualties were still greater. About two thousand dead were left by them on the field, and nearly a thousand prisoners were taken. Five of their generals were killed and wounded. The British had Major-General Hoghton, thirty-three officers, thirty-three sergeants, four drummers, and nine hundred and seventeen rank and file killed; one hundred and eighty-one officers, one hundred and forty-six sergeants, nine drummers, and two thousand six hundred and sixty-six rank and file wounded; fourteen officers, twenty-eight sergeants,

tread shook the ground; their dreadful volleys swept away the head of every formation; their deafening shouts overpowered the dissonant cries that broke from all parts of the tumultuous crowd, as slowly, and with a horrid carnage, it was pushed by the incessant vigour of the attack, to the farthest edge of the height. There the French reserve, mixing with the struggling multitude, endeavoured to sustain the fight; but the effort only increased the irremediable confusion; the mighty mass gave way, and like a loosened cliff, went headlong down the steep. The rain flowed after in streams discoloured with blood, and fifteen hundred unwounded men, the remnant of six thousand unconquerable British soldiers, stood triumphant on the fatal hill."

\* Shakspeare has not lost sight of soldiers being thus wounded,—the ambition of every Spartan,—for in the last scene of "Macbeth," old Siward, when informed of his son's death, asks—

"Siward. Had he his hurts before?

Rosse. Ay, on the front.

Siward. Why, then, God's soldier be he!

Had I as many sons as I have hairs,

I would not wish them to a fairer death;

And so his knell is knoll'd."

ten drummers, and five hundred and twenty-eight rank and file missing.\* Nearly all the men reported as missing, however, subsequently re-joined their regiments.

The word ALBUHERA is borne by the 3rd. Dragoon Guards, and 4th. Light Dragoons, 3rd., 7th., 23rd., 28th., 29th., 31st., 34th., 39th., 48th., 57th., 60th., and 66th. regiments.

Amongst the instances of the defence and preservation of the colours, the following are remarkable, and more especially that of the 3rd., Buffs, for which a medal was struck. In the accounts of the time, Ensign Walsh, of the 3rd. Foot, was reported to have prevented the colour of the regiment from being taken by tearing, when the staff of the colour was broken by a cannon-ball, the colour off and concealing it in his bosom. This statement misled the then Chancellor of the Exchequer when he moved a vote of thanks to the army, on the 7th. of June following, for its gallantry in this sanguinary battle. The honour, however, was due to Lieutenant Latham, who preserved the regimental colour from falling into the enemy's hands in the following gallant manner:—While the Buffs were engaged with the French infantry, they were attacked in the rear by a large force of French and Polish cavalry. Ensign Thomas, who carried the second, or regimental colour, was called upon to surrender; but he replied that could only be with his life. He fell, mortally wounded, a victim to his

\* "Mustering the living and recording the dead became afterwards our melancholy duty. On reckoning our numbers, the 29th. regiment had only ninety-six men, two captains, and a few subalterns remaining out of the whole regiment; the 57th. regiment had but a few more, and were commanded out of action by the adjutant; the first battalion of the 48th. regiment suffered in like manner; not a man of the brigade was prisoner; not a colour was lost, although an eloquent historian most unwarrantably stated that the 57th. had lost theirs—the 57th. lose their colours!—never! Major-General Hoghton, commanding the brigade, and Lieutenant-Colonel Duckworth, of the 48th. regiment, were killed; Lieutenant-Colonel White, of the 29th. regiment, mortally wounded; Colonel Inglis, of the 57th., and Major Way, of the 29th. regiments, very severely. In fact, every field officer of the whole brigade was either killed or wounded, so that at the close of the action the brigade remained in command of a captain of the 48th. regiment, and, singular enough, that captain was a Frenchman (Cemetiere,)

"The field afterwards presented a sad spectacle, our men lying generally in rows and the French in large heaps, from their having fought principally in masses, they not having dared to deploy (as they afterwards told us) from a dread of our cavalry; having supposed that we would not have ventured to act in such an open country without a great superiority in that description of force."—*The Twenty-ninth at Albuhera, United Service Journal, October, 1835.*

bravery, and the colour was captured. The first, or the king's colour, was carried by Ensign Walsh; the sergeants who protected it had fallen in its defence, and this officer was pursued by several Polish lancers. Lieutenant Latham saw the danger of the colour being borne in triumph from the field by the enemy; his soul was alive to the honour of his corps, and he ran forward to protect it. Ensign Walsh was surrounded, wounded, and taken prisoner; but Lieutenant Latham arrived at the spot in time to seize the colour, which he defended with heroic gallantry. Environed by a crowd of assailants, each emulous of the honour of its capture, and his body bleeding from wounds, Lieutenant Latham clung with energetic tenacity to his precious charge, defended himself with his sword, and refused to yield. A French hussar, seizing the flag-staff, and rising in his stirrups, aimed at the head of the gallant Latham a blow which failed in cutting him down, but which sadly mutilated him, severing one side of the face and nose. Although thus severely wounded, his resolute spirit did not shrink, but he sternly and vigorously continued to struggle with the French horsemen, and, as they endeavoured to drag the colour from him, he exclaimed, "I will surrender it only with my life." A second sabre stroke severed his left arm and hand, in which he held the staff, from his body. He then dropped his sword, and, seizing the staff with his right hand, continued to struggle with his opponents until he was thrown down, trampled upon, and pierced with lances; but the number of his adversaries impeded their efforts to destroy him, and at that moment the British cavalry came up and the French troopers fled. Lieutenant Latham, although desperately wounded, was so intent on preserving the colour, that he exerted the little strength he had left to remove it from the staff and to conceal it under him. The Fusilier brigade advanced, and, by a gallant effort, changed the fortune of the day. Sergeant Gough, of the first battalion of the 7th. Royal Fusiliers, found the colour under Lieutenant Latham, who lay apparently dead. The colour, for which so desperate a struggle had been maintained, was restored to the Buffs, and the sergeant was rewarded with a commission, being, in consequence of his gallant conduct, appointed ensign in the 2nd.

West India Regiment, on the 14th. of November, 1811. After lying some time on the ground in a state of insensibility, Lieutenant Latham revived and crawled towards the river, where he was found endeavouring to quench his thirst. He was removed to the convent, his wounds dressed, and the stump of his arm amputated; he ultimately recovered. Ensign Walsh escaped from the enemy soon after he had been made prisoner. When recovered of his wounds, he joined his regiment, and made known the circumstance of the colour having been thus preserved by Lieutenant Latham. The officers of the Buffs, with a readiness which reflected great honour on the corps, subscribed one hundred guineas for the purchase of a gold medal, on which the preservation of the colour by Lieutenant Latham was represented in high relief, with the motto, "I will surrender it only with my life." Application was made to His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, by General Leigh, then Colonel of the 3rd. Foot, or the Buffs, for the royal authority for Lieutenant Latham to receive and wear the medal, which was granted, in a letter dated Horse Guards, 4th. January, 1813. The medal was presented to this gallant officer at Reading, on the 12th. of August following. An operation was performed in 1815, by the celebrated surgeon, Mr. Carpué, assisted by Assistant John Morrison, M.D., of the Buffs, to repair the mutilation of Captain Latham's face, at the suggestion of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, who kindly defrayed the expense of the operation and cure. Captain Latham received, by authority of the royal warrant, a pension of one hundred pounds a year, in consequence of the loss of his left arm, and a further annual pension of seventy pounds on account of his other severe wounds. He continued to serve in the 3rd. regiment until the 20th. of April, 1820, when he exchanged to half-pay, receiving the regulated difference.

Ensign James Jackson carried the regimental colour of the 57th. at Albuhera. Soon after the action commenced, the officer with the king's colour was severely wounded, and the colour fell to the ground, when Ensign Jackson immediately directed one of the non-commissioned officers to pick it up, and taking it from him, gave the regimental colour to the sergeant,

which he retained until an officer was brought to take charge of it. The king's colour, which Ensign Jackson carried, received thirty balls through it, and two others broke the pole and carried away the top. Nine balls passed through his clothes, of which four wounded—one through the body. During the greatest part of the battle the hostile lines were less than one hundred yards from each other. Brevet-Major James Jackson was placed on retired full pay as captain, 57th. regiment, on the 25th. of June, 1841, and was promoted to the brevet rank of Lieutenant-Colonel on the 28th. of November, 1854. He is still living.

Marshal Soult retired after the battle to the ground he had been previously on, but occupying it in position, and during the night of the 17th. he commenced his retreat towards Seville, leaving Badajoz to its fate.

#### MEDAL FOR ALBUHERA.

THE medal for the battle of Albuhera was the same as that conferred for other actions of this period, and of which an illustration is given for Talavera; but there appears also to have been one awarded by the Spanish monarch, for in a letter, dated Gonesse, 2nd. July, 1815, addressed to Marshal Lord Beresford, G.C.B., the Duke of Wellington wrote, "You should recommend for the Spanish medal for Albuhera, according to the rules laid down by the King of Spain, for the grant of it. I think it should be given only to those who were there, and actually engaged." When the silver war medal was authorized, it is almost superfluous to state that a bar was granted for this victory.

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#### CAPTURE OF JAVA.

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1811.

THE British government resolved to complete its dominion in the East, by the conquest of the island of Java, of which the Dutch had held undisturbed possession for more than one hundred years. The extent of the island,—six hundred and forty miles long, and about a hundred broad; the luxuriant and fertile character of the soil, the mountain districts yielding

the vegetables and grain of Europe, and the plains the delicious fruits and other valuable productions of the East in abundance, without the necessity of laborious tillage, and to so great an extent, as to occasion it to be sometimes called the granary of the East; rendered the island of Java a valuable acquisition to the United Provinces, and its principal city, Batavia, was the capital of the Dutch settlements in the East Indies. Holland having become a part of that empire which Napoleon was forming to prepare the way for universal dominion, it became necessary to deprive the Dutch of this large and fertile island.

Lord Minto, the Governor-General of India, planned the expedition, and in order to carry out his idea, gave orders for the collection of a number of troops at Madras. The squadron was placed under Rear-Admiral the Honourable Robert Stopford, and the land forces were commanded by Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty; whilst his lordship determined to accompany the armament.

A landing was effected on the 4th. of August, 1811, at Chillingching, within twelve miles east of Batavia, which was taken possession of on the 8th. of that month without opposition. The possession of Batavia was of the utmost importance. Although large storehouses of public property were burnt previous to the retreat of the enemy, and every effort made to destroy the remainder, some valuable granaries and other stores were preserved. During the night of the 8th. a feeble attempt was made by the enemy to cut off a small guard, which had been sent for the security of the place; but the troops of the advance had reinforced the party early in the evening, and the attack was repulsed. The advance under Colonel (afterwards Major-General Sir Robert Rollo) Gillespie occupied the city on the 9th. of August.

On the 10th. a sharp affair took place with the *élite* of General Jansen's army; the British had advanced from Batavia, and found three thousand select men of the Gallo-Batavian troops in a strong position at Weltervreeden, defended by *abatis*; this post was stormed and carried at the point of the bayonet by the troops under Colonel Gillespie, many of the enemy being killed, and their guns captured; the remainder retreated to

the entrenched position at Cornelis, between the great river Jacatra and the deep aqueduct of Slokan, neither of which was fordable. In this affair the grenadier company of the 78th., and the detachment of the 89th. regiment, were particularly distinguished in charging and capturing their adversaries' artillery. The British loss was trifling compared with that of their opponents, which was estimated at about five hundred men, with Brigadier-General Alberti dangerously wounded.

Although success had thus attended the British troops, further progress became extremely difficult, and somewhat doubtful. The position of the foe was extremely formidable. Seven redoubts, and many batteries, mounted with heavy cannon, occupied the most commanding ground within the lines, the whole of the works being defended by a numerous and well-organized artillery. As the season was too far advanced, the heat so violent, and the number of troops insufficient to admit of regular approaches, the only alternative was to attempt to carry the works by assault, and in aid of this design, some batteries were erected for the purpose of disabling the principal redoubts; a heavy fire was kept up by the British for two days, from twenty eighteen-pounders and eight mortars and howitzers. Their execution was great, and although answered at the commencement of each day by a far more numerous artillery, the nearest batteries were daily silenced, and every part of the position was considerably disturbed.

At dawn on the 26th. of August, the assault on Cornelis was made. To Colonel Gillespie, a gallant and experienced officer, the attack was entrusted. He had the infantry of the advance and the grenadiers of the line with him, and was supported by Colonel Gibbs, with the 59th. regiment and the fourth battalion of Bengal Volunteers. They were intended, if possible, to surprise the redoubt, No. 3, constructed beyond the Slokan, to endeavour to cross the bridge over that stream with the fugitives, and then to assault the redoubts within the lines, Colonel Gillespie attacking those to the left, and Colonel Gibbs to the right. Lieutenant-Colonel William Macleod, with six companies of the 69th., was directed to follow a path on the bank of the great river, and when the attack had commenced on the Slokan, to endeavour to possess himself of

the left redoubt, No. 2. Major Tule, with the flank corps of the reserve, reinforced by two troops of cavalry, four guns of horse artillery, two companies of the 69th., and the grenadiers of the reserve, was to attack the corps at Campong Maylayo, on the west of the great river, and endeavour to cross the bridge at that post.

The remainder of the army, under Major-General (afterwards General Sir Frederick) Wetherall, was at the batteries, where a column under Colonel Wood, consisting of the 78th. regiment and the fifth volunteer battalion, was directed to advance against the enemy in front, and at a favourable moment, when aided by the other attacks, to force his way, if practicable, and open the position for the line. General Jansens was fully prepared for the conflict, and was in the redoubts when it commenced. After a long detour through a close and intricate country, Colonel Gillespie came on the enemy's advance, routed it in an instant, and, under a heavy fire of grape and musketry, rapidly possessed himself of the advanced redoubt, No. 3. Passing the bridge with the fugitives, under a tremendous fire, he assaulted and carried with the bayonet the redoubt No. 4, after a very obstinate resistance. Here the two divisions of the columns separated. Colonel Gibbs turned to the right, and with the 59th. and a portion of the 78th., which had now forced their way in front, carried the redoubt No. 1. At the instant of its capture an explosion of the magazine occurred, which destroyed a number of officers and men who were crowded on its ramparts, which the foe had abandoned. The redoubt No. 2, against which Lieutenant-Colonel William Macleod's (69th. Foot) attack was directed, was carried in equally gallant style, but that officer fell in the moment of victory. The front of the position being thus open, the assailants rushed in from every quarter.\* The cavalry,

\* "During the operations on the right, Colonel Gillespie pursued his advantage to the left, carrying the enemy's redoubts towards the rear, and being joined by Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander McLeod, of the 59th., with part of that corps, he directed him to attack the park of artillery, which that officer carried in a most masterly manner, putting to flight a body of the enemy's cavalry that formed and attempted to defend it. A sharp fire of musketry was now kept up by a strong body of the enemy, who had taken post in the lines in front of Fort Cornelis, but were driven from them, the fort taken, and the enemy completely dispersed. They were pursued by Colonel Gillespie, with the 14th. regiment, a party of Sepoys,



towards the rear, and horse artillery forced a passage through the lines, the fort of Cornelis was carried, and the British were triumphant at every point. Nearly two thousand of the enemy were killed, and about five thousand prisoners were taken, including three general officers.\* The remainder of the enemy dispersed, excepting a few men who accompanied the Gallo-Batavian commander, General Jansens, in his flight.

From the 4th. of August, 1811, to the 26th. of that month, the British loss amounted to killed, Europeans,—fifteen officers, eighteen sergeants, and ninety-one rank and file; Natives,—two Jemidars, two Havildars, and twenty-three rank and file; wounded, Europeans,—sixty-two officers, thirty-three sergeants, two drummers, and five hundred and thirteen rank and file; Natives,—two Subahdars, four Jemidars, nine Havildars, one drummer, and one hundred and seven rank and file.

General Jansens, with about fifty horse, the remnant of his army of ten thousand men, escaped into the interior, where, having collected a small force, he made a feeble

and the seamen from the batteries under Captain Sayer, of the Royal Navy. By this time the cavalry and horse artillery had effected a passage through the lines, the former commanded by Major Travers, and the latter by Captain Noble; and, with the gallant Colonel at their head, the pursuit was continued, till the whole of the enemy's army was killed, taken, or dispersed. Major Tule's attack was equally spirited, but, after routing the enemy's force at Campong Maylayo, and killing many of them, he found the bridge on fire, and was unable to penetrate further." —*Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty's despatch.*

\* The following incident is quite a Romance of War:—After the storming of Fort Cornelis, the British pressed on in pursuit, when several prisoners were captured. Captain G. A. Wetherall, of the Royals, (now Lieutenant-General Sir George Wetherall, K.C.B., recently Adjutant-General, and at present commanding the troops in the Northern District,) Aide-de-Camp to his father, the late General Sir Frederick Wetherall, who was most in command, was ordered to conduct them to the rear. When passing the barracks, *en route*, a young officer, one of the prisoners, begged permission to go to his room to recover his watch, and obtain a change of linen. Captain Wetherall readily acceded to the request, went with him, and, having obtained what was required, he gave his card, and was most grateful. In 1851, forty years after, when so many foreigners came to see the Great Exhibition, this officer, hearing that the captain to whom he felt indebted was on the Staff at the Horse Guards, had an interview there, when he reminded him of the circumstance, of which he had retained a lively recollection, and urged an invitation to visit him at Breda. During this lengthened interval changes had occurred to both officers; the one had been Governor-General of Java and the Dutch settlements, that island having been restored to Holland at the general peace, in 1814, and the other had gained his high position on the Staff, by the eminent services he had rendered in the suppression of the insurrection in Canada.

attempt at further resistance, which resulted in the surrender of himself and his troops in September, with the island of Java and its dependencies, to the British arms. This valuable island was annexed to the dominions of the British crown, but was restored to Holland at the termination of the war, by the treaty of Vienna, in 1814\*

This conquest is commemorated by the 14th., 59th., 69th., 78th., and 89th. regiments bearing the word JAVA on their colours and appointments.

#### MEDAL FOR JAVA.

THE medal which was conferred for this success was the same as that granted for the Peninsular victories, and was similarly distributed.† When the general silver medal was subsequently authorized for the several services specified at page 15, the word JAVA was inscribed on one of the bars, as was done for the capture of Martinique and Guadaloupe.

### SIEGE OF CIUDAD RODRIGO.

JANUARY, 1812.

As soon as the troops had recovered from their sickness and fatigue, Viscount Wellington determined on the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo, which place was approached on the 8th. of January,

\* After the capture of Java the 14th regiment remained on the island for some time. The Sultan of Mataram, who governed a portion of the interior, trusting to his power, and the strength of his fortified palace, at Djocjocarta, meditated the expulsion of all Europeans from the island, and committed aggressions of which it became necessary to stop the progress. To effect this, his palace was captured by storm on the morning of the 20th. of June, 1812; on which occasion the 14th. had another occasion of distinguishing themselves. Lieutenant-Colonel Watson (now General Sir James Watson, K.C.B., and Colonel of the 14th.,) commanded the main attack, and the grenadiers of the regiment headed the assault with their usual gallantry.

† Extract of a letter from Lord Liverpool, Secretary of State for the War Department, to Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty:—"Downing Street, December, 1811.—As it is His Royal Highness the Prince Regent's intention to confer Medals upon the Officers employed on this service, in conformity to the principle which has of late been adopted with respect to the Campaigns in Spain and Portugal, I am to desire that you will furnish me with the names of those Officers of His Majesty's land forces, and those of the East India Company, who have particularly distinguished themselves, subject to the limitations explained in the enclosed papers.—I have, etc., LIVERPOOL."

The limitations alluded to have been already shewn in this work.

1812. It was not, however, regularly invested, for the light division only crossed on that day. The French garrison in the Francisco redoubt considered the affair merely as one of observation, and amused themselves with bowing and saluting the new comers. At night a party was formed from each regiment of the above division, under Lieutenant-Colonel John Colborne, of the 52nd., and the redoubt was stormed: the conduct of this officer, and of the detachment, was highly applauded in the official despatches.

Viscount Wellington, in the afternoon of the 14th. of January, opened fire from twenty-two pieces of ordnance in three batteries in the first parallel, and the British established themselves in the second parallel on the same night. Lieutenant-General Graham facilitated this measure by having surprised the enemy's detachment in the convent of Santa Cruz, on the night of the 13th.; and Major-General the Honourable Charles Colville, in temporary command of the fourth division, had, on the night of the 14th., obtained possession of the convent of St. Francisco, and of the other fortified posts of the suburb. The latter service was gallantly performed by Lieutenant-Colonel Harcourt, with the 40th. regiment, which remained from that period in the suburb of St. Francisco, and materially assisted in the attack on that side of the place. The siege was prosecuted with such vigour, that, on the 19th. of the same month, two practicable breaches having been made in the body of the place, the British commander resolved to carry it by storm.

The assault was made on the evening of Sunday, the 19th. of January, in five separate columns. Brigadier-General Pack, who was destined to make a false attack upon the southern face of the fort, converted it into a real one, his advance guard, under the command of Major Lynch, having followed the enemy's troops from the advanced works into the *fausse-braye*, where all opposed to them were made prisoners.

Major Ridge, of the second battalion of the 5th. Fusiliers, having escalated the *fausse-braye* wall, stormed the powerful breach in the body of the place, together with the 94th. regiment, (Scots Brigade, since disbanded,) commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell. These regiments not only

effectually covered the advance from the trenches of Major-General Mac Kinnon's brigade, by their first movements and operations, but preceded it in the attack.

Major-Generals Craufurd and Vandeleur, and the troops of the light division on the left, were likewise very forward on that side; and in less than half an hour from the time the attack commenced, the British troops were in possession of, and formed on the ramparts of the place, each body contiguous to the other. The enemy, having sustained a considerable loss in the contest, then submitted.

The British casualties were severe, especially in officers of high rank and estimation. During the siege, and in the assault, nine officers and one hundred and sixty-nine men were killed, seventy officers and seven hundred and forty-eight men wounded; in all nine hundred and ninety-six. Major-General Mac Kinnon was blown up by the accidental explosion of one of the enemy's expense magazines, close to the breach, after having gallantly and successfully led the troops under him to the attack. Major-Generals Craufurd and Vandeleur were wounded, the former severely, whilst leading on the light division to the storm; Lieutenant-Colonel Colborne, of the 52nd. Light Infantry,\* who was severely wounded, and Major (afterwards Sir George) Napier, who led the storming party of the light division, also wounded on the top of the breach, and lost an arm. The garrison likewise sustained a severe loss, and was reduced to one thousand seven hundred men.

Viscount Wellington specially praised the troops of the first,

\* "Lieutenant Gurwood, (afterwards the editor of the Wellington Dispatches,) of the 52nd., who led the forlorn hope, afterwards took the French Governor, General Barrié, prisoner in the citadel. Lord Wellington presented Lieutenant Gurwood with the sword of General Barrié on the breach by which Gurwood had entered,—a fitting and proud compliment to a young soldier of fortune!

"The young Earl of March, (the late Duke of Richmond,) then a Lieutenant in the 13th. Light Dragoons, and serving as aide-de-camp to Viscount Wellington, also entered the breach as a volunteer with the storming party of the 52nd. The Prince of Orange and Lord Fitz Roy Somerset (the late Lord Raglan) were the companions of Lord March in this adventurous assault, and on the following morning, when taking their places at breakfast in the tent of the Commander of the Forces, they received a gentle reproof for adventuring into a position, which, being officers of the staff, they were not called upon to undertake by the customs of the service."—*Fifty-second Record*.

third, fourth, and light divisions, and Brigadier-General Pack's brigade, by whom the siege was carried on. His lordship added:—"The conduct of all parts of the third division, in the operations which they performed with so much gallantry and exactness on the evening of the 19th., in the dark, affords the strongest proof of the abilities of Lieutenant-General Picton and Major-General Mac Kinnon, by whom they were directed and led; but I beg particularly to draw your Lordship's attention to the conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel O'Toole, 2nd. Caçadores, Major Ridge, 5th. Foot, Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, 94th., Major Manners, 74th., and of Major Grey, 5th. Foot, who has been twice wounded during this siege.

"It is but justice also to the third division to report, that the men who performed the sap belonged to the 45th., 74th., and 88th. regiments, under the command of Captain M'Leod, of the Royal Engineers, and Captain Thompson, of the 74th., Lieutenant Beresford, of the 88th., and Lieutenant Metcalfe, of the 45th.; and they distinguished themselves not less in the storm of the place than they had in the performance of their laborious duty during the siege.

"Although it did not fall to the lot of the troops of the first and fourth divisions to bring these operations to their successful close, they distinguished themselves throughout their progress, by the patience and perseverance with which they performed the labours of the siege. The brigade of Guards, under Major-General H. Campbell, was particularly distinguished in this respect."

The British commander was advanced to the dignity of an Earl, with an annuity of two thousand pounds. Parliament voted its thanks to him and his gallant army. This success also gained for him, from the Spanish government, the title of Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo.

CIUDAD RODRIGO is now borne on the colours and appointments of the 5th., 43rd., 45th., 52nd., 60th., 74th., 77th., 83rd., 88th. regiments, and Rifle Brigade.

## SIEGE OF BADAJOZ.

17th. MARCH AND 6TH. APRIL, 1812.

THE formidable fortress of Ciudad Rodrigo having been captured with such unlooked-for rapidity, astonished the French general, who had assembled an army of sixty thousand men for its relief, which now again returned to its winter quarters. As soon as the breaches were repaired, and the place put in a state of defence, the Earl of Wellington undertook, for the third time, the siege of Badajoz. The preparations for this service had been carried on with extraordinary secrecy, and were completed about the beginning of March, when the army broke up from its cantonments in the neighbourhood of Almeida, and, moving with the greatest rapidity, arrived before Badajoz on the 16th. of that month, when the place was invested by the third, fourth, and light divisions. An advanced post, the Picurina, was taken by storm on the 25th., and on the following day two breaching batteries opened fire on the town.

On the 6th. of April three breaches were considered practicable, and orders were issued for the assault. It was determined to assault the castle of Badajoz by escalade. Accordingly the attack was made on the night of the 6th. of April, at ten o'clock. Major-General Kempt's brigade\* led, and he was wounded in crossing the River Rivillas, below the inundation. Notwithstanding this circumstance and the obstinate resistance of the enemy, the castle was carried by escalade, and the third division (known as the "Fighting

\* At its head marched the 45th. regiment, supporting the advanced storming party, composed of the flank companies of the division and the 83rd. regiment. Few more desperate conflicts are on record than that which took place. After repeated assaults the escalade was effected, and the place carried.

Lieutenant M'Pherson, of the 45th., though wounded previous to his ascending the ladders in the escalade, was distinguished in hauling down the French flag from the staff on the citadel, which being brought to Major Greenwell, who commanded the regiment, he ordered a jacket of the 45th. to be substituted in its place, acting upon the well-known adage of—"exchange no robbery." It had been a point of emulation amongst the different regiments during the siege, which should have the honour of striking the French flag, and spiking a certain gun in the castle, which had been particularly offensive during the operations; the 45th. had the good fortune to do both.

Third") established thereon about half-past eleven. Meanwhile Major Wilson, of the 48th. regiment, carried the ravelin of St. Roque, with a detachment of two hundred men of the guard in the trenches, and, with the aid of Major Squire, of the Engineers, he established himself within that work.

The fourth and light divisions were not perceived by the enemy until they reached the covered way, and the advanced guards of the two divisions descended without difficulty into the ditch, protected by the fire of the parties stationed on the *glacis* for that purpose. They advanced to the assault of the breaches, led by their gallant officers, with the utmost intrepidity; but such was the nature of the obstacles prepared by the garrison at the top and behind the breaches, and so determined the resistance, that the assailants could not establish themselves within the place. Many brave officers and soldiers were killed or wounded by explosions at the top of the breaches, and others who succeeded to them were compelled to give way. Repeated attempts were made till after twelve at night, when the Earl of Wellington, seeing that success was not to be attained, and that Lieutenant-General Picton was established in the castle, the fourth and light divisions were ordered to retire to the ground on which they had first assembled for the attack.

Major-General Leith in the meantime had pushed forward Major-General Walker's brigade on the left, supported by the 38th., under Lieutenant-Colonel Nugent, and the 15th. Portuguese regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Do Rego; and he had made a false attack upon the Pardaleras, with the 8th. Caçadores, under Major Hill. Major-General Walker forced the barrier on the road of Olivença, and entered the covered way on the left of the bastion of St. Vicente, close to the Guadiana. There he descended into the ditch, and escalated the face of that bastion.

This proceeding was supported by Lieutenant-General Leith, with the 38th., and the 15th. Portuguese regiment; and the British troops being thus established in the castle, which commanded all the works of and in the town; and the fourth and light divisions being formed again for the attack of the breaches, all resistance ceased. At daylight in the morn-

ing of the 7th. of April, the Governor, General Philippon, who had retired to Fort St. Christoval, surrendered, together with the whole garrison, which consisted of five thousand men at the commencement of the siege, of whom one thousand two hundred were killed or wounded during the operations, besides those lost in opposing the assault. About three thousand five hundred prisoners were captured, being all that survived of the gallant garrison.

The regiments now in the service which bear BADAJOZ on their colours and appointments are the 4th., 5th., 7th., 23rd., 27th., 30th., 38th., 40th., 43rd., 44th., 45th., 48th., 52nd., 60th., 74th., 77th., 83rd., 88th., and Rifle Brigade.

This success cost the British and Portuguese the following heavy casualties:—Seventy-two officers, fifty-one sergeants, two drummers, and nine hundred and ten rank and file killed; three hundred and six officers, two hundred and sixteen sergeants, seventeen drummers, and three thousand two hundred and forty-eight rank and file wounded. No wonder that the Iron Duke wept, when he saw that the glory of the capture was purchased at such a price.

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## BATTLE OF SALAMANCA.

22ND. JULY, 1812.

ON the 17th. of June, the forts at Salamanca were invested by the sixth division, and operations commenced by the light companies thereof, under Colonel Samuel Venables Hinde, of the 32nd. regiment. The remainder of the army was formed in order of battle on the heights of San Christoval, in front of Salamanca, from the 20th. to the 28th. of June, to meet Marshal Marmont, who advanced with forty thousand men to relieve the forts. They were attacked without success on the 23rd., and carried on the 27th. of June, by a party under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Davies, of the 36th. regiment. Several skirmishes and changes of position occurred. The Earl of Wellington advanced in pursuit of the French Marshal, who, having received reinforcements, crossed the Douro, and the allies retired, skilfully manœuvring and taking up different positions in presence of the enemy, until the



21st., when they reached the ground they had formerly occupied, on the height of San Christoval.

Shortly after daylight on the 22nd. of July, detachments from both armies attempted to obtain possession of the more distant from the allied right of the two hills called Dos Arapiles. In this attempt the enemy succeeded, his detachment being the strongest; by which success the French position was materially strengthened, and they had in their power increased means of annoying that of their opponents.

The light troops of the seventh division, and the 4th. Cazadores, belonging to Major-General Pack's brigade, were engaged in the morning with the enemy on the height of Nuestra Senora de la Pena, on which they maintained themselves throughout the day. The improved position of the French rendered it necessary for the Earl of Wellington to extend the right of his army *en potence* to the heights behind the village of Arapiles, and to occupy it with light infantry; here the fourth division, under the command of Lieutenant-General the Honourable Lowry Cole, was placed.

A variety of evolutions and movements having been made by the French Marshal, he proceeded to carry out his plan about two o'clock in the afternoon; and under cover of a very heavy cannonade, which did but little injury, he extended his left, and moved forward his army, apparently with an intention to embrace, by the position of his troops, and by his fire, the British post on that of the two Arapiles, and thence to attack and break the line; or at all events to render difficult any movements to the right. This extension of the French line to their left, and its advance upon the allied right, gave the British commander an opportunity of attacking him, for which he had long been anxious. "The attack of the third division," says Lord Londonderry, in his "Story of the Peninsular War," "was not only the most spirited, but the most perfect thing of the kind that modern times have witnessed. Regardless alike of a charge of cavalry and of the murderous fire which the enemy's batteries opened, on went these fearless warriors, horse and foot, without check or pause, until they won the ridge, and then the infantry giving their volley, and the cavalry falling on, sword in hand,

the French were pierced, broken, and discomfited. So close indeed was the struggle, that in several instances the British colours were seen waving over the heads of the enemy's battalions."

The British General, in his despatch, observed that "Major-General the Honourable Edward Pakenham\* formed the third division across the enemy's flank, and overthrew everything opposed to him. These troops were supported in the most gallant style by the Portuguese cavalry, under Brigadier-General D' Urban, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hervey's squadrons of the 14th., who successfully defended every attempt made by the enemy on the flank of the third division."

In front the French were attacked by Brigadier-General Bradford's brigade, the fourth and fifth divisions, and the cavalry under Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton, Bart., and were driven from one height to another. The cavalry made a most successful charge against a body of French infantry, which they overthrew, and cut to pieces. In this charge Major-General Le Marchant was killed. The sixth division, under Major-General Clinton, was ordered up at a critical period to relieve the fourth division, which had been heavily pressed, and the battle was soon restored to its former success.

The enemy's right, reinforced by the troops which had fled from his left, and by those which had by this time retired from the Arapiles, still continued to resist; and while other corps were directed to turn the right, the sixth division,†

\* On the enemy's commencing to give way, a French officer picked up a firelock, thrown down by one of his men, and levelled it at Major-General the Honourable Edward Pakenham; the piece missed fire, when the intrepid officer snatched up another, and presented it, on which Corporal Patrick Cavanagh, of the 45th., advanced out of the ranks, shot the officer, and saved the general; but both parties were now so near, that in the act of firing the Corporal was himself shot.

† The 11th. and 61st. regiments specially distinguished themselves on this occasion; evening was fast approaching, and the legions of Napoleon were retreating in much disorder, when the French division, commanded by General Maucune, made a determined stand to cover the retreat of the broken battalions; then ensued a desperate musketry action in the dark. The difficulty of the ascent gave the enemy's division, formed on the summit, a decided advantage; but at length Maucune's battalions were forced from the height. Of Major-General Hulse's brigade, (the 11th., 53rd., and 61st.,) only nine officers and three hundred men remained, which were formed on the following day into one battalion. A round shot (probably fired at the colours of the 11th.,) took the heads off the two sergeants, posted between the colours, and of a black man who beat the

supported by the third and fifth, attacked the front. It was dark before this point was carried by the sixth division, and the enemy then fled through the woods towards the Tormes. The pursuit was made by the first and light divisions, and Major-General William Anson's brigade of the fourth division, and some squadrons of cavalry, under Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton, Bart.; but the darkness of the night enabled many of the enemy to escape, and was unfortunately the cause of Sir Stapleton being wounded by one of the allied sentries. The same troops renewed the pursuit at break of day the next morning, with Major-Generals Bock's and Anson's brigades of cavalry, which had joined during the night. On coming up with the enemy's rear-guard of cavalry and infantry near La Serna, they were at once attacked by the two brigades of dragoons; the French cavalry fled, leaving the infantry to their fate. The gallant charge made on the infantry by the heavy brigade of the King's German Legion, under Major-General Bock, which was completely successful, was highly commended; the whole body of infantry, consisting of three battalions of the French first division, were made prisoners on this occasion.

Eleven pieces of cannon, several ammunition waggons, two eagles, and six colours were captured; one general, three colonels, three lieutenant-colonels, one hundred and thirty officers, and about seven thousand soldiers were taken prisoners. Marshal Marmont was badly wounded, and lost an arm; four general officers were killed, and several wounded.

The British had twenty-eight officers and three hundred and sixty men killed; one hundred and seventy-eight officers and two thousand five hundred and thirty-six men wounded; the Portuguese had thirteen officers and two hundred and ninety-one men killed; and seventy-four officers and one thousand four hundred and seventy-eight men wounded; the Spanish losses were limited to two men killed and six wounded.

cymbals in the band, and who was in rear of them, without injuring either of the officers carrying the colours; one of them (Ensign Scott) was afterwards killed. So fast did the men fall, that it appeared as if not one would be left; it was remarked with what steadiness the men closed, without orders, to the centre as vacancies continually took place; the supernumeraries were soon disposed of.

In all four thousand nine hundred and sixty-four killed and wounded. Major-General Le Marchant was killed; Field-Marshal Sir W. C. Beresford, K.B., Lieutenant-Generals Sir Stapleton Cotton, Leith, and the Honourable George Lowry Cole, and Major-General Victor Alten were amongst the wounded. The French loss was still more considerable.

This victory was followed by the surrender of Madrid to the allies, who entered that city on the 12th. of August, and were joyfully received by the inhabitants. The title of Marquis was conferred on the Earl of Wellington.

SALAMANCA is emblazoned on the colours and appointments of the following regiments:—5th. Dragoon Guards, 3rd., 4th., 11th., 14th., and 16th. Light Dragoons; 1st., 2nd., 4th., 5th., 7th., 9th., 11th., 23rd., 24th., 27th., 30th., 32nd., 36th., 38th., 40th., 43rd., 44th., 45th., 48th., 51st., 52nd., 53rd., 58th., 60th., 61st., 68th., 74th., 79th., 83rd., and 88th. Foot, and Rifle Brigade.

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## CAPTURE OF FORT DETROIT.

AUGUST, 1812.

THE negotiations between the British government and the United States of America, which had several times been broken off and renewed, ultimately terminated on the 18th. of June, 1812, by the latter declaring war. Their first design was the conquest of Canada, and early in July the American commander, Brigadier-General Hull, invaded that country, by crossing the Detroit River on the 12th. of that month, with two thousand three hundred men, consisting of regular cavalry and infantry, and militia, bringing with him several field-pieces; having driven in the militia towards Amherstsburg, he advanced to Sandwich, and afterwards approached the former place with a part of his army to the River Canard, about five miles from the fort, where he was foiled in three attempts to cross that river, which cost him a considerable loss. The garrison of Amherstsburg at that time consisted of a subaltern's detachment of the royal artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Troughton, a detachment of three hundred men of the 41st. regiment, under Captain Muir, and about the same number of militia,

the whole commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Saint George, the district inspecting field officer of militia. Some skirmishes occurred between the troops under the latter officer, and the enemy upon the River Canard, which uniformly terminated in his being repulsed with loss. Major-General Isaac Brock detached a force down the River Thames, capable of acting in conjunction with the garrison of Amherstsbury offensively, but Captain Chambers, who had been appointed to direct this detachment, experienced difficulties that frustrated the design; whereupon Colonel Proctor was ordered to assume the command, and his force was soon after increased with sixty men of the 41st. regiment. Meanwhile the most strenuous exertions were made; and voluntary offers of service were received from that portion of the embodied militia the most easily collected. The Attorney-General, John M'Donell, Esq., acted as provincial aide-de-camp to Major-General Brock, and other gentlemen of the first character and influence evinced similar devotion.

A sufficiency of boats being collected at Long Point for the conveyance of three hundred men, the embarkation took place on the 8th. of August, and in five days the troops arrived at Amherstsbury. The judicious arrangement which had been adopted immediately upon the arrival of Colonel Proctor, of the 41st., compelled the Americans to retreat and take shelter under the guns of the fort; that officer commenced operations by sending strong detachments across the river, with a view of cutting off the enemy's communication with his reserve. This produced two smart skirmishes on the 5th. and 9th. of August, in both of which the Americans suffered considerable loss; the British had only three killed and thirteen wounded, amongst the latter were Captain Muir and Lieutenant Sutherland, of the 41st. regiment. Batteries had likewise been commenced opposite Fort Detroit, for one eighteen-pounder, two twelve, and two five and a half-inch mortars, all of which were opened on the evening of the 15th. of August, Brigadier-General Hull having been previously summoned to surrender, and though opposed by a well-directed fire from seven twenty-four-pounders, such was their construction, under the able directions of Captain Dixon, of the royal engineers, that no injury was sustained therefrom.

Major-General Brock having collected the force at his disposal during the 15th. of August in the neighbourhood of Sandwich, the embarkation commenced a little after daylight on the following morning, and by the able arrangements of Lieutenant Dewar, of the quartermaster-general's department, the whole landed at Springwell, about three miles west of Detroit. The Indians, who had in the meantime effected a landing two miles below, moved forward and occupied the woods, about a mile and a half on the British left. The force which was instantly directed to march against the enemy, consisted of thirty royal artillery, two hundred and fifty of the 41st. regiment, fifty Royal Newfoundland regiment, four hundred militia, and about six hundred Indians, to which were attached three six-pounders, and two three-pounders. The troops afterwards advanced to within one mile of the fort, when an assault was determined upon. Brigadier-General Hull, however, prevented this movement, by proposing a cessation of hostilities, for the purpose of preparing terms of capitulation. The American troops that surrendered consisted of two thousand five hundred men, and were divided into two troops of cavalry; one company of artillery regulars; the 4th. United States regiment; detachments of the 1st. and 3rd. United States regiment, volunteers; three regiments of the Ohio militia; and one regiment of the Michigan territory. Thirty-three pieces of brass and iron ordnance had already been secured. This capitulation was concluded at Detroit on the 16th. of August, 1812, and the 41st. foot bears the name of the fort on the regimental colour. The medal granted for this service was similar to that authorized for the Peninsula; and on the war-medal being issued a clasp was added commemorative of the foregoing events.

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## BATTLE OF VITTORIA.

21ST. JUNE, 1813.

ON the night of the 19th. of June, 1813, the French troops, commanded by Joseph Buonaparte, having Marshal Jourdan as the Major-General of the army, took up a position in front of Vittoria, the left resting upon the heights which end at La Puebla

de Arganzon, and extending thence across the valley of the Zadorra, in front of the village of Arinez. The Marquis of Wellington reconnoitred the enemy's position on the 20th., with the design of giving him battle on the following morning, if he should still remain in it, and accordingly on the 21st. of June ordered an attack to be made on three separate points—Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, with the second division, was to assail the French left at La Puebla; while Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham, with the first and fifth divisions, was to make a wide detour to the left, and crossing the Zadorra at Vittoria, to attack their right, and cut off their retreat by the great road to Bayonne. The centre, consisting of the fourth and light divisions, (under Lord Wellington himself,) on the right, and the third and seventh, (under Lieutenant-General Lord Dalhousie,) on the left, was to pass the bridges in front, and attack as soon as the movements on the flanks should be executed. The troops moved from the camp on the Bayas at day-break; and the operations of the day commenced by Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill obtaining possession of the heights of La Puebla. The enemy soon discovered the importance of these heights, and reinforced their troops to such an extent, that the Lieutenant-General was obliged to detach first the 71st. regiment and the light infantry battalion of Major-General Walker's brigade, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable Henry Cadogan, and successively other troops to the same point. The allies not only gained, but maintained possession of these important heights throughout their operations, notwithstanding the strenuous efforts made by the enemy to re-take them. Lieutenant-Colonel Cadogan was here mortally wounded. The contest was thus at first chiefly on the extreme right and left, because, on account of the rugged nature of the ridges they had to pass, the left centre column, (third and seventh divisions,) did not reach the Zadorra until nearly one o'clock; the fourth and light divisions crossed the Zadorra immediately after Sir Rowland Hill had obtained possession of Subijana de Alava, the former at the bridge of Nanclares, and the latter at the bridge of Tres Puentes. The right brigade of the third division, followed by the seventh division, under the Earl of Dalhousie, then crossed the bridge

of Mendoza, the other brigades of the third division fording higher up the river.

The seventh division and the centre brigade of the third division attacked the French right centre, in front of the villages of Margarita and Hermanadad, and the Marquis of Wellington, seeing the hill in front of the village of Arinez weakly occupied by the enemy, ordered the right brigade of the third division, under Lieutenant-General Pieton, in close columns of battalions at a run diagonally across the front of both armies to that central point. The hill was carried immediately, and the French withdrew under cover of a cannonade from fifty pieces of artillery and a crowd of skirmishers, to the second range of heights, on which their reserve had been posted; they, however, still held Arinez on the great road leading to Vittoria. The brigade then advanced to the attack of the village of Arinez; the three right companies of the 74th., under Captain Mc Queen, with the companies of the 60th., immediately dashed forward and charged through it, drove out the enemy, and captured three guns; these companies were then halted under cover of some houses until the remainder of the regiment and brigade should come up, as the French were again advancing upon the post with increased numbers, keeping up a terrific fire of artillery and musketry. Finally they were driven back in confusion at the point of the bayonet.

By the capture of the village the great road was gained, and the French extreme left was turned, while they were hard pressed by Sir Rowland Hill's attack on their front. They retreated on Vittoria, and the British continued the advance in admirable order, notwithstanding the difficulty of the ground. For six miles the action became a running fight and cannonade. When within a mile of Vittoria, the enemy made a stand, and the third division, being the foremost, bore the brunt of a heavy fire, until a hill on the French left was carried by the fourth division, which caused them to abandon the position.

Meanwhile Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham, with his divisions, had attacked the French right. The village of Gamarra Mayor was most gallantly stormed and carried by



Brigadier-General Robinson's brigade of the fifth division, which advanced in columns of battalions under a very heavy fire of artillery and musketry, without firing a shot, assisted by two guns of Major Lawson's brigade of artillery. The French suffered severely, and three pieces of cannon were captured. Sir Thomas then proceeded to attack the village of Abechuco with the first division. These two villages were strongly occupied by the enemy as *têtes-de-pont* to the bridges over the Zadorra at these places. During the operations at Abechuco, which was carried, the light battalion having charged and taken three guns and a howitzer on the bridge, the greatest efforts were made to recover Gamarra Mayor, which were gallantly repulsed by the troops of the fifth division, under Major-General Oswald. Two divisions of the French were in reserve on the heights upon the left of the Zadorra, and it was not possible to cross by the bridges until the troops, which had moved upon the centre and left, had driven them through Vittoria. The whole then co-operated in the pursuit, which was continued by all till after dark.

The movement of the troops under Sir Thomas Graham, and their possession of Gamarra and Abechuco, intercepted the enemy's retreat by the high road to France. They were then obliged to turn to the road towards Pampeluna, but were unable to hold any position for a sufficient length of time to allow the baggage and artillery to be drawn off. The whole, therefore, of the latter which had not already been captured by the troops, in their attack of the successive positions taken up by the French in their retreat from their first position on Arinez, and on the Zadorra, together with all their ammunition and baggage, fell into the hands of the British close to Vittoria. Only one gun and howitzer were carried off by the enemy.

Count Gazan, the Chief of the French Staff, in his report, shewed the state of destitution to which the officers were reduced.—“To such an extent are they stripped, that no one can account for what he has, or what is due to him. Several of the generals and officers have nothing in the world but the coats on their backs, and most of them are barefooted.” The French occupation of the Peninsula was virtually settled by this day's success.

Although the nature of the ground did not admit of the cavalry regiments being generally engaged, they were kept close to the infantry to support them, and were most active in the pursuit. The court equipage of King Joseph was taken, and his carriage being seized, he had barely time to escape on horseback. The defeat was the most complete that had been experienced in Spain.\*

Marshal Jourdan's bâton was taken, and the Prince Regent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, appointed the Marquis of Wellington a Field-Marshal. In a most flattering letter, the Prince Regent thus conferred the honour:—"You have sent me among the trophies of your unrivalled fame, the staff of a French Marshal, and I send you in return that of England." This bâton was taken by the 87th., under Lieutenant-Colonel (now Viscount) Gough. The colours of the fourth battalion of the 100th. regiment were also among the trophies.†

Both armies were nearly equal in numbers, consisting of about seventy thousand men each. The French loss was stated by themselves at six thousand, and the casualties of the allies amounted to thirty-three officers, nineteen sergeants, five drum-

\* "After clearing various obstacles in their front, the 13th. approached Vittoria, when the royal carriages were perceived, and Major-General Long instantly ordered a squadron, commanded by Captain Doherty, to pursue them; this was promptly executed, and the whole were captured after a sharp skirmish, in which Private Michael Sullivan distinguished himself, cutting down a French officer, and capturing his horse. In the meantime the remainder of the regiment had formed in front of a compact body of the enemy, whom they vigorously charged and routed. Captain Doherty observing this movement, left the royal carriages in charge of Sergeant Scriven and twelve men, and joined the regiment, with which he continued in close pursuit of the enemy during the remainder of the day. Sergeant Scriven reported his having given up the royal carriages to an officer with a party of infantry, who said he had orders to take charge of them, but he omitted taking a receipt, or demanding the officer's name."—*Historical Record of the 13th. Light Dragoons.*

† "I send this despatch by my aide-de-camp, Captain Fremantle, whom I beg leave to recommend to your lordship's protection; he will have the honour of laying at the feet of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent the colours of the fourth battalion of the 100th. regiment, and Marshal Jourdan's bâton of a Marshal of France, taken by the 87th. regiment."—*Marquis of Wellington's despatch.*

Southey thus describes the bâton:—"It was rather more than a foot long, and covered with blue velvet, on which the imperial eagles were embroidered; and it had been tipped with gold, but the first finder had secured the gold for himself. The case was of red morocco, with silver clasps, and with eagles on it, and at either end the Marshal's name imprinted in gold letters."

mers, and six hundred and eighty-three rank and file killed; two hundred and thirty officers, one hundred and fifty-eight sergeants, fourteen drummers, and three thousand seven hundred and sixty-eight rank and file wounded.

VITTORIA is emblazoned on the colours and appointments of the following regiments:—3rd. and 5th. Dragoon Guards; 3rd., 4th., 14th., 15th., and 16th. Light Dragoons; 1st., 2nd., 4th., 5th., 6th., 7th., 9th., 20th., 23rd., 24th., 27th., 28th., 31st., 34th., 38th., 39th., 40th., 43rd., 45th., 47th., 48th., 50th., 51st., 52nd., 53rd., 57th., 58th., 59th., 60th., 66th., 68th., 71st., 74th., 82nd., 83rd., 87th., 88th., 92nd., and Rifle Brigade.

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### ACTIONS OF THE PYRENEES.

28TH. JULY TO 2ND. AUGUST, 1813.

AFTER the decisive battle of Vittoria, the British commander blockaded the fortress of Pampeluna, besieged St. Sebastian, and took up a position with the covering army in the Pyrenees. On the 17th. of July the blockade of Pampeluna was entrusted to the Spaniards. The whole frontier of the Pyrenees, from the pass of Roncesvalles to the mouth of the Bidassoa river, was now occupied by the second, seventh, and light divisions, with some Portuguese brigades in the front line; and by the third, fourth, and sixth divisions as supports, covering the blockade of Pampeluna, and the siege of St. Sebastian, then going on under Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham. Thus the British army, after years of toil and conflict, endured to procure liberty for the oppressed inhabitants of the Peninsula, had forced the intrusive monarch of Spain from his throne, and stood triumphant on the lofty pinnacles of the Pyrenees; but another mighty struggle was at hand, in which the innate valour and hardihood of British soldiers were about to be tested, and the French army, having been re-organized by Marshal Soult, was pushed boldly forward to drive them from the mountains.

Marshal Soult having arrived at Bayonne on the 13th. of July, to command, as "Lieutenant of the Emperor," the united French army of Spain, on the 25th. of that month

attacked with about forty thousand men Major-General Byng's post at Roncesvalles. Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir Lowry Cole moved up to his support with the fourth division, and these officers were enabled to maintain their post throughout the day; but the enemy having turned it in the afternoon, Sir Lowry deemed it advisable to withdraw during the night, and marched to the neighbourhood of Zubiri. A detachment of the 20th. evinced signal gallantry in its attacks on the head of a French column, but was forced back by superior numbers. The Marquis of Wellington stated in his despatch, that "in the actions which took place on this day, the 20th. regiment distinguished themselves."

Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill's position in the Puerto de Maya, at the head of the valley of Bastan, was also attacked by two divisions of the centre of the French army in the afternoon of the same day. The brunt of the action fell upon Major-Generals Pringle's and Walker's brigades in the second division, under the command of Lieutenant-General the Honourable William Stewart. These troops were at first compelled to give way, but having been supported by Major-General Barnes's brigade of the seventh division, they regained that part of their post, which was the key of the whole, and would have enabled them to re-assume it, had circumstances permitted it.\* Sir Rowland Hill, having been apprised of the necessity that Sir Lowry Cole should retire, considered it advisable to withdraw his troops also to Irurita, and the

\* In this desperate combat in the Pass of Maya, the 6th., 34th., 50th., 71st., 82nd., and 92nd. regiments had opportunities of distinguishing themselves. The latter having been hotly engaged for ten successive hours, and in want of ammunition, was ordered by Lieutenant-General the Honourable William Stewart not to charge, and the gallant Highlanders, for the first time, disregarded orders, not only charging, but leading the charge. Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron, of the 92nd., who commanded the first brigade, was permitted by his Sovereign to bear on his shield the word Maya in commemoration of this action. The 92nd. had thirty-four men killed and two hundred and sixty-eight men wounded; one officer was killed, and eighteen officers were wounded, one of whom died of wounds. Sir William Napier, in his history of the Peninsular War, has remarked that "so dreadful was the slaughter, especially of the 92nd., that it is said the advancing enemy was actually stopped by the heaped mass of dead and dying. The stern valour of the 92nd., principally composed of Irishmen, would have graced Thermopylae."

Sir Archibald Alison has shewn in his "History of Europe" that the latter statement is inaccurate, and has inserted some returns, in proof of his assertion. These documents are taken from the Prize List, Vittoria, and the Inspection Report of the 15th. of October, 1813; but the sub-

enemy did not advance on the following day beyond the Puerto de Maya.

During the seven hours these brave troops were engaged but little advantage was acquired by the French, notwithstanding the numerical superiority of the latter. All the regiments charged with the bayonet, and the conduct of the 82nd., which moved up with the brigade under Major-General Barnes, was particularly reported. Lieutenant-General the Honourable William Stewart was slightly wounded.

These events were not known to the Marquis of Wellington until late in the night of the 25th. and 26th., whereupon his lordship adopted immediate measures to concentrate the army to the right, at the same time making provision for the siege of St. Sebastian, and for the blockade of Pampeluna.

The hill on the right of the fourth division, which was occupied on the 27th. of July by one battalion of the 4th. Portuguese regiment, and by the Spanish regiment of Pravia, was attacked; but these troops defended their ground and drove back the enemy. This height being important to the British position, the 40th. was ordered to reinforce it, and this corps, with the Spanish regiments of El Principe and Pravia, succeeded in holding it, despite the repeated efforts made during the 27th. and 28th. by the enemy to obtain possession. On the morning of the 28th. the sixth division joined, and it was ordered to form across the valley in rear of the fourth. Scarcely had they taken their position when they were attacked by a very large force; their front was however so well defended by the fire of their own light troops from the heights on their left, and by that from the heights occupied by the fourth division and Brigadier-General Campbell's Portuguese brigade, that the foe was soon driven back with immense slaughter.

To extricate their troops from the difficulty in which they

joined statement extracted from the Return of the first battalion of the 92nd. regiment, for the 25th. of July, *the date of the action*, is stronger corroboration of the countries of the men composing this battalion:—

	Officers.	Sergeants.	Drummers.	Corporals.	Privates.	Total.
English.....	1		3		33	37
Scotch.....	42	58	13	44	810	967
Irish.....	7		1	3	64	75
Total..	50	58	17	47	907	1,079

were placed, the enemy attacked the height on which the left of the fourth division stood, which was occupied by the 7th. Caçadores, and succeeded in obtaining a momentary possession. They were again attacked by this regiment, supported by Major-General Ross, at the head of his brigade of the fourth division, and were driven down with great loss.

Now the battle became general along the whole front of the heights occupied by the fourth division, and in every part was in favour of the allies, excepting where one battalion of the 10th. Portuguese regiment of Major-General Campbell's brigade was posted. This battalion having been overpowered, and compelled to give way immediately on the right of Major-General Ross's brigade, the French established themselves on the British line, and that general was obliged to withdraw from his post.

The 27th. and 48th. regiments were then ordered to charge, first that body which had established a footing on the height, and next the portion on the left. Both attacks succeeded, and the enemy was forced down with immense loss; and the sixth division having moved forward at the same time to a situation in the valley of the Lanz, nearer to the left of the fourth, the attack upon that front entirely ceased, and was continued but faintly on other points of the line.

During this hard-fought action the following regiments were specially noticed by the Marquis of Wellington, who observed in his despatch:—"In the course of this contest the gallant fourth division, which has so frequently been distinguished in this army, surpassed their former good conduct. Every regiment charged with the bayonet,—the 40th., 7th., 20th., and 23rd., four different times. Their officers set them the example; and Major-General Ross had two horses killed under him. The Portuguese troops likewise behaved admirably, and I had every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the Spanish regiments, *El Principe* and *Pravia*."

As soon as it was ascertained that Lieutenant-Generals Sir Thomas Picton and Sir Lowry Cole had moved from Zubiri, that post not being considered tenable for the time during which it would have been necessary to wait therein, Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill received orders to march

by Lanz upon Lizaso, and Lieutenant-General the Earl of Dalhousie from San Estevan to the same place, where both arrived on the 28th. of July, and the seventh division came to Marcalain.

Sir Rowland Hill was followed by the enemy's force that had been in his front, and which ultimately endeavoured to turn the left of the allies by an attack on his corps. They reinforced with one division the troops that had been opposed to him, and during the night of the 29th. and 30th., occupied in strength the crest of the mountain on the British left of the Lanz, opposite to the sixth and seventh divisions, thus connecting their right in their position with the divisions detached for the attack of Sir Rowland Hill's corps.

Wellington had resolved, however, to attack this position. The Earl of Dalhousie was ordered to possess himself of the top of the mountain in his front, thus turning the enemy's right; and Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton was to cross the heights, so as to turn his left by the road to Roncesvalles. As soon as the effect of these movements on the flanks should become apparent, the front of the position was to be attacked. Major-General the Honourable Edward Pakenham, who had been sent to take the command of the sixth division on Major-General Pack being wounded, turned the village of Sorauren as soon as the Earl of Dalhousie had driven the foe from the mountain, by which that flank was defended. The sixth division, and Major-General Byng's brigade, which had relieved the fourth division on the left of the position on the road to Ostiz, at once attacked, and succeeded in carrying that village.

The front of the main position was likewise attacked by Lieutenant-General Sir Lowry Cole, with the 7th. Caçadores, supported by the 11th. Portuguese regiment, the 40th., and the battalion under Colonel Bingham, consisting of the 2nd. and 53rd. regiments. These combined operations compelled the enemy to abandon a position pronounced by the British commander to have been one of the strongest and most difficult of access that he had ever seen occupied by troops. In the retreat therefrom the French lost a great number of prisoners.

During the course of these operations, and as their success



was observed, troops were detached to the support of Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, before whom the enemy appeared in his front late in the morning, and commenced at once an extended manœuvre upon his left flank, which obliged him to withdraw from the height which he occupied behind the Lizaso to the next range; there, however, he maintained himself, and that general specially praised the 28th., 34th., and 60th. regiments.

At sunset the Marquis of Wellington having continued the pursuit of the enemy, after his retreat to Olague, found himself immediately in the rear of their attack upon Sir Rowland Hill, from whose front they withdrew in the night, and on the 31st. of July took up a strong position, with two divisions, to cover their rear in the pass of Donna Maria. This pass was attacked and carried by Sir Rowland Hill and the Earl of Dalhousie, notwithstanding a vigorous opposition, and the strength of the position.\* On this occasion Lieutenant-General the Honourable William Stewart was wounded. A very thick fog prevented that advantage being taken of the situation of the enemy, which otherwise might have been effected.

Meanwhile the Marquis of Wellington moved with Major-General Byng's brigade and the fourth division, under Lieutenant-General Sir Lowry Cole, by the Pass of Velate upon Irurita, in order to turn the French position on Donna Maria.

\* "On our arrival at the foot of the pass, we found the enemy ascending the hill in great haste, and closely pressed by the seventh division, moving by a road parallel and to the right of that which my column was on. The rear of the enemy's column having begun to ascend the hills before our arrival, it was impossible to cut off any part of it. It was, however, considerably annoyed on its march by one nine-pounder and a howitzer. I immediately ordered the second division, under Lieutenant-General Stewart, to ascend the hill by the road we were on, whilst the Earl of Dalhousie's column ascended by one more to the right. The enemy took up a strong position at the top of the pass, with a cloud of skirmishers in the front.

"The attack on our side was led by Lieutenant-General Stewart, with Major-General Walker's brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Fitzgerald, of the 60th., who forced back the enemy's skirmishers to the summit of the hill; but coming upon their main body, found them so numerous and so strongly posted, that Lieutenant-General Stewart was induced to withdraw them until the seventh division should be in closer co-operation with him. About this time the Lieutenant-General was wounded, and the command of the division devolved upon Major-General Pringle, who, with his own brigade, commanded by Colonel O'Callaghan, renewed the attack on our side, whilst the seventh division pressed them on the other, and both divisions gained the height about the same time, the enemy retiring, after sustaining a very considerable loss.—*Sir Rowland Hill's despatch.*



Major-General Byng (the late Earl of Strafford) intercepted in Elizondo a large convoy, and captured several prisoners. The pursuit of the enemy was continued in the valley of the Bidassoa, and many prisoners and much baggage were taken; the latter General possessed himself of the valley of Bastan, and of the position on the Puerto de Maya, so that the British forces on the night of the 1st. of August, occupied nearly the same positions as on the 25th. of July.

The French troops having been considerably reinforced and re-equipped after their recent defeat, made a most formidable attempt on the 28th. to relieve the blockade of Pampeluna with the whole of their forces, excepting the reserve under General Villatte, which remained in front of the British corps on the great road from Irun. This attempt was however entirely frustrated by the operations of a part only of the allied army, and the enemy sustained a defeat, and suffered considerably both in officers and men. They sent off the guns to St. Jean de Pied de Port on the evening of the 28th. of July, which alone ensured their safety.

Again the fourth division was most highly spoken of—the British commander stating that it is impossible to describe its “enthusiastic bravery.”

On the morning of the 2nd. of August, the enemy still continued posted, with a force of two divisions, on the Puerto de Echalar, and nearly the entire army behind the Puerto, when the fourth, seventh, and light divisions advanced by the valley of the Bidassoa to the frontier, it having been determined to dislodge them by a combined attack and movement of the three divisions. The seventh division having, however, crossed the mountains from Sumbilla, had necessarily preceded the arrival of the fourth, and Major-General Barnes's brigade was therefore formed for the attack, and advanced, before the fourth and light divisions could co-operate, with a regularity and gallantry which the British commander “had seldom seen equalled, and actually drove the two divisions of the enemy, notwithstanding the resistance opposed to them, from those formidable heights.” This exploit was the admiration of all who witnessed it. Major-General Kempt's brigade of the light division likewise forced a very considerable force from the rock

forming the left of the Puerto. The enemy were now in their own territory, and the British troops awaited in the Pyrenees the capture of St. Sebastian and Pampeluna.

These combats, which have been designated the "Battles of the Pyrenees," were commemorated by the usual medal, with the name of these mountains inscribed thereon, and the following regiments bear the same word on their colours, namely,—2nd., 3rd., 6th., 7th., 11th., 20th., 23rd., 24th., 27th., 28th., 31st., 32nd., 34th., 36th., 39th., 40th., 42nd., 45th., 48th., 50th., 51st., 53rd., 57th., 58th., 60th., 61st., 66th., 68th., 71st., 74th., 79th., 82nd., 91st., and 92nd. Foot.

As may be readily conceived, the loss of the allies during these protracted encounters was great; they had forty-one officers and eight hundred and forty seven men killed, and three hundred and twenty-eight officers and five thousand one hundred and seventy-two men wounded; many, however, were but slight cases.\*

## SIEGE OF ST. SEBASTIAN.

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1813.

THE allies having advanced to so great a distance from Portugal, that country was no longer used by the British as a place of arms, and the establishments there were consequently

\* 1813.

	KILLED.				WOUNDED.			
	Offl.	Ser.	Drs.	R & F	Offl.	Ser.	Drs.	R. & F.
July 25 to 28.....	31	34	2	507	205	146	11	3,172
July 30 .....	7	14		202	83	63	12	1,154
July 31 to Aug. 1...	1	6		51	16	26	4	281
August 2.....	2	4		27	24	18	2	283
	41	58	2	787	328	253	29	4,890
	847				5,172			

"Although our wounded are numerous, I am happy to say that the cases in general are slight, and I have great pleasure in reporting to Your Lordship that the utmost attention has been paid to them by the Inspector-General, Dr. M'Grigor, and by the officers of the department under his directions."—*Marquis of Wellington's despatch.*

broken up. In conjunction with the ocean, the Western Pyrenees offered a fresh base of operations, and the capture of St. Sebastian became of primary importance.\*

One of the first objects was the reduction of the convent and redoubt of San Bartolomeo, which were battered by the artillery, and so far damaged, that on the 17th. of July, it was determined to storm these posts. The pickets of the 4th. Caçadores, and one hundred and fifty men of the 13th. Portuguese regiment, supported by three companies of the 9th., with a reserve of three companies of the Royals, formed on the right to attack the redoubt; two hundred men of the 5th. Caçadores, and two hundred of the 13th. Portuguese, supported by the 9th. regiment, formed on the left to attack the convent. At ten o'clock in the forenoon, the troops rushed from behind the hill overlooking the convent. Both the convent and the houses of the suburb were assaulted, and in the latter a fierce struggle ensued, but eventually the French were expelled with severe loss.

The capture of the convent facilitated the progress of the siege, and on the 24th. of July the breaches were deemed practicable, when the third battalion of the Royals was directed to storm the great breach, the 38th. regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Miles, the lesser breach, and the 9th., under Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron, supported the Royals, under Major Peter Fraser. At daybreak on the morning of the 25th. of July, the troops advanced to the attack with signal intrepidity; the cannon of the fortress played upon them in front; the ground was difficult to pass; and the volleys of musketry

\* The following description of St. Sebastian is from an interesting work by Lieutenant March, R.M., entitled "A Walk across the French Frontier into North Spain:"—"Broad sands, clean, regular streets, and a temperate climate render San Sebastian the Brighton of Spain. It covers a low isthmus beneath the steep barren hill of Orgullo, which protects the town from the rude assaults of the Atlantic, and is crested by the strong citadel of La Mota. This tongue of land is flanked by two rather extensive bays. The one on the west is partially sheltered from the sea by the little island of Santa Clara, but its anchorage is unsafe, and vessels are obliged to be warped within the narrow sinuous mole directly beneath the citadel. The other bay, to the north-east, forms the entrance to the River Uremia. Its bar is impracticable, except for boats during a calm; a terrific surf beats over it in stormy weather, and dashes up the sea-curtain, sprinkling the solitary sentry with its drift as he paces his exposed beat. It was against the inner angle of this part of the fortifications that Wellington made his successful attack; and a new light-coloured ravelin indicated the site of the breach through which our indomitable soldiers fought their way."

were incessant; at the same time showers of hand-grenades, shells, and large stones were poured down upon them; yet the attack was made with valour; but the defences round the breach had not been destroyed, and success was found to be impracticable. Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron and Lieutenant Colin Campbell, of the 9th., distinguished themselves on this occasion, and the latter, (now General Lord Clyde,) who led the left wing of the Royals, was severely wounded. The loss sustained was severe, especially by the third battalion of the Royals, the leading one of Major-General Hay's brigade, which, being on duty in the trenches, formed the column of attack.

During the contest in the mountains, before described, the siege was turned into a blockade; when the French, however, had been repulsed and driven back with severe loss, the siege was resumed, and was afterwards prosecuted with vigour. On the 26th. of August, the fire against the fort was opened, and Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham directed that an establishment should be formed on the island of Santa Clara, in the bay of St. Sebastian. At three o'clock on the morning of the 27th. of August, a hundred soldiers of the 9th. Foot, commanded by Captain Hector Cameron, sailed from Passages in boats to attack the island. As the boats approached the shore, a heavy fire was opened upon them, but a landing was effected, and the garrison made prisoners.

On the morning of the 27th. of August, the French made a sally against the new batteries on the isthmus, but were repulsed. St. Sebastian was again attacked by storm on the 31st. of August, and the heroic perseverance of all the troops concerned was at length crowned with success. The column of attack was formed of the second brigade of the fifth division, commanded by Major-General Robinson, with the following detachments as supports:—one hundred and fifty volunteers of the light division, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hunt; of the 52nd.; four hundred of the first division, consisting of two hundred of the brigades of guards, under Lieutenant-Colonel Cook; one hundred of the light battalion, and one hundred of the line battalions of the King's German Legion, under Major Robertson; and two hundred volunteers of the fourth division, under Major Rose, of the 20th. Foot. In reserve were the remainder of the

fifth division, consisting of Major-General Spry's Portuguese brigade, and the first brigade, under Major-General Hay, together with the fifth battalion of Caçadores of Major-General Bradford's brigade, under Major Hill; the whole were under the direction of Lieutenant-General Sir James Leith, commanding the fifth division. The difficulties to be overcome were so formidable, and the resistance of the enemy so determined, that the reserve brigade was pushed on by degrees. For five hours the conflict raged at the breaches, when an explosion destroyed the enemy's traverses. The guns were turned against the curtain, against which a heavy fire of artillery was directed. This passed a few feet only over the heads of the troops on the breach, and was kept up with remarkable precision. The advance of the first battalion of the 13th. regiment, under Major Snodgrass, over the open breach and across the river, and of a detachment of the 24th. regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Mac Bean, in support, was gallantly made under a very severe fire of grape. A great effort was next made to gain the high ridge, and to storm the hornwork. The second brigade of the fifth division, under Colonel the Honourable Charles Greville, moved out of the trenches for this purpose, and the third battalion of the 1st. foot, under Lieutenant-Colonel Barns, supported by the 38th., under Lieutenant-Colonel Miles, opportunely arrived to assault the trench of the curtain about the time when the explosion had created some confusion amongst the garrison. After a severe conflict the narrow pass was gained, and the troops on the right of the breach having succeeded in forcing the barricades on the top of the narrow line wall, found their way into the houses which joined it. After an assault which lasted over two hours, a firm footing, under the most trying circumstances, was obtained. Nothing could restrain the impetuosity of the troops, and in an hour more the enemy were driven from all the complications of defences prepared in the streets, and after suffering severe loss, they abandoned the town, and retreated into the castle.

Batteries mounting fifty-four pieces of ordnance opened a tremendous fire upon the citadel on the 8th. of September, and in less than three hours the garrison hoisted a flag of truce, and after some discussion surrendered. The loss of the garrison

was related to have amounted to two-thirds of their numbers at the commencement of the siege.

From the 28th. of July to the 31st. of August the British had thirty-six officers, thirty-one sergeants, one drummer, and five hundred and three men killed; seventy officers, (including Lieutenant-General Sir James Leith and Major-Generals Oswald and Robinson,) fifty-four sergeants, six drummers, and nine hundred and seventy-three rank and file were wounded. The Portuguese had eight officers and one hundred and eighty-one men killed, and thirty-five officers and five hundred and fifty-nine men wounded.

ST. SEBASTIAN on the colours of the 1st., 4th., 9th., 38th., 47th., and 59th. regiments, commemorates this arduous and glorious service.

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### THE GOLD CROSS AND CLASPS.\*

(SEE FRONTISPIECE.)

OFFICERS in the course of the war had received so many medals, that it became extremely inconvenient to wear them, and it was the practice for a short time to engrave the name of the second or third action on the medal originally

\* The illustration is copied from the Cross and Clasp conferred upon the late General Sir George Scovell, G.C.B., and kindly lent to the author by his nephew and heir-at-law, George Scovell, Esq. Sir George, in addition to the battles recorded on the above decoration, namely, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, and Toulouse, for which gold medals were issued to certain of the officers under the restrictions specified in this work, received the silver war-medal and eight clasps for Sahagun and Benevente, Corunna, Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, and Salamanca. At the battle of Corunna he served as Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General, and subsequently in the same department under the Duke of Wellington, from 1809 to the termination of the war in 1814. He was also at Waterloo, the medal for which battle was added to his other honours; and he likewise received the Russian order of the fourth class of St. Wladimir. His first commission, dated 5th. April, 1798, was that of cornet in the 4th Light Dragoons, of which regiment he was the colonel at the period of his decease. From February, 1837, to April, 1856, he held the appointment of Governor of the Royal Military College, at Sandhurst. He attained the rank of Major-General on the 10th. of January, 1837; Lieutenant-General on the 9th. of November, 1846, in which year he was appointed colonel of the 7th. Dragoon Guards, but was removed to the 4th. Light Dragoons in December, 1847. Sir George was promoted General on the 20th. of June, 1854. His other commissions were in the 57th. regiment, and in the cavalry Staff Corps. He died at Henley Park, near Guildford, on the 17th. of January, 1861.

given to them.\* It was afterwards determined that only one medal should be worn by any officer; for every other action in which he might distinguish himself, a gold clasp, with the name of the event, was to be attached to the ribbon, until two clasps had been received. On the next occasion whereon he might signalize himself, a gold cross, having on each compartment the names of each of the four services was to be conferred instead of the medal and clasps originally received. For every subsequent action a clasp was to be issued, to be attached to the ribbon above the cross. In the centre of the cross, which was fastened to the ribbon or swivel by a large ring, chased with laurel, is a lion statant; in each compartment, surrounded by an edge of laurel, is the name of the battle or action. Wreaths of laurel are also round the names of the actions on the clasps.

So much reluctance was evinced by officers to relinquish the original medals, that the design of having them returned was given up. When officers had received both the medals, as necessarily happened during the lengthened struggle in the Peninsula, the large one was worn, with the clasps of the actions for which the small medals had been conferred.

The following regulations regarding the grant of the Cross and clasps were published in the "London Gazette:"—

"Horse Guards, October 7th., 1813.

Whereas considerable inconvenience having been found to attend the increased number of medals, that have been issued in commemoration of the brilliant and distinguished events, in which the success of His Majesty's arms has received the royal approbation, the Prince Regent has been pleased to command, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, that the fol-

\* "Richoso, 1st. October, 1811.—Adverting to your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd. September, regarding the grant of medals to the officers of the army, it occurs to me that an improvement might still be made in the system; for instance, many officers, in the course of service, become entitled to two or three, or more medals. In my opinion, they should receive but one; but for every additional action deemed worthy of the medal, in which any officer having a medal should be present, he should be warranted to have the name of that action engraved on his medal, and that in that case the fresh medal for that action should be given to the officer next in command in the regiment, who was present and distinguished in the action."

"To the Earl of Liverpool."

*The Wellington Dispatches.*



lowing regulations shall be adopted, in the grant and circulation of such marks of distinction, namely,—

1st.—That one medal only shall be borne by each officer, recommended for such distinction.

2nd.—That for the second and third events, which may be subsequently commemorated in like manner, each individual recommended to bear the distinction, shall carry a gold clasp attached to the ribbon to which the medal is suspended, and inscribed with the name of the battle, or siege, to which it relates.

3rd.—That upon a claim being admitted to a fourth mark of distinction, a cross\* shall be borne by each officer, with the names of the four battles, or sieges, respectively inscribed thereupon; and to be worn in substitution of the distinctions previously granted to such individuals.

4th.—Upon each occasion of a similar nature, that may occur subsequently to the grant of a cross, the clasp shall again be issued to those who have a claim to the additional distinction, to be borne on the ribbon to which the cross is suspended, in the same manner as described in No. 2, of these regulations.

His Royal Highness is further pleased to command, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, that the distribution of medals, or badges, for military services of distinguished merit, shall be regulated as follows, namely,—

1st.—That no general, or other officer, shall be considered entitled to receive them, unless he has been personally and particularly engaged upon those occasions of great importance and peculiar brilliancy, in commemoration of which the Prince

\* Some correspondence had taken place on the subject with the Marquis of Wellington, as appears by the following:—

“Freneda, 16th. March, 1813.

“I have received your letter of the 24th. February, in regard to the medals, and I concur entirely with you regarding all the improvements you propose on the subject. You have provided a remedy for a difficulty which I could never get over in a way at all satisfactory to myself. I likewise agree with you in the propriety of having a cross with eight bars, or a star with eight points, for those who are entitled to more than seven distinctions. I am not certain that it would not be best that all general officers, as well as others, should wear the medal or cross at the button-hole till they should receive the last distinction. It is very awkward to ride in round the neck.”

“To Earl Bathurst.”

*The Wellington Dispatches.*



Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, may be graciously pleased to bestow such marks of distinction.

2nd.—That no officer shall be considered a candidate for the medal, or badge, except under the special selection and report of the Commander of the Forces upon the spot, as having merited the distinction by conspicuous services.

3rd.—That the Commander of the Forces shall transmit to the Commander-in-Chief, returns signed by himself, specifying the names and ranks of those officers whom he shall have selected as particularly deserving.

4th.—The Commander of the Forces, in making the selection, will restrict his choice to the under-mentioned ranks,\* namely,—General officers; Commanding officers of brigades; Commanding officers of artillery, or engineers; Adjutant-General, and Quartermaster-General; Deputies of Adjutant-General, and Quartermaster-General, having the rank of field-officers; Assistants-Adjutant and Quartermaster-General, having the rank of field-officers, and being at the head of the staff, with a detached corps, or distinct division of the army; Military Secretary, having the rank of field-officer; Commanding officers of battalions, or corps equivalent thereto; and officers who may have succeeded to the actual command during the engagement, in consequence of the death, or removal, of the original commanding officer.

The Prince Regent is therefore graciously pleased to command, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, that, in commemoration of the brilliant victories obtained by His Majesty's arms in the battles of Roleia and Vimiera, Corunna, Talavera de la Reyna, Busaco, Barrosa, Fuentes d'Onor, Albuhera, and Salamanca, and in the assaults and captures of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, the officers of the army, present on those occasions, shall enjoy the privilege of bearing badges

\* It appears that the Duke of Wellington was in favour of a more general distribution, for in a letter dated Vera, 6th. November, 1813, addressed to Marshal Sir William Carr Beresford, K B., in reference to his claim for the Ciudad Rodrigo medal, he remarked, "In regard to the medals, I have always been of opinion, that government should have extended the principle more than they did; and in executing their orders, I believe it will be found that, whenever a medal could be given to an individual under the orders of government, I have inserted his name in the return. However, my decision on this or any other subject is not final; and if anybody doubts, I wish he would apply to superior authority."—*The Wellington Despatches.*

of distinction; and His Royal Highness having approved of the crosses, medals, and clasps, which have been prepared, is pleased to command that they shall be worn by the general officers, suspended by a ribbon of the colour of the sash, with a blue edge, round the neck; and by the commanding officers of battalions, or corps equivalent thereto, and officers who may have succeeded to the actual command during the engagement, the chiefs of military departments, and their deputies and assistants, (having the rank of field-officers,) and such other officers as may be specially recommended, attached by a ribbon of the same description to the button-hole of their uniform.

The Prince Regent is also pleased to command, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, that those badges which would have been conferred upon the officers who have fallen at, or died since, the above-named battles and sieges, shall, as a token of respect for their memories, be transmitted to their respective families.

By command of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

FREDERICK, Commander-in-Chief.

H. TORRENS, Colonel and Military Secretary."

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## AFFAIR OF CHATEAUGUAY.

26TH. OCTOBER, 1813.

THIS was one of the actions which occurred during the war between Great Britain and the United States. In the autumn of 1813, a great effort was made by the Americans for the invasion of Canada at different points. The expedition commenced with the advance of Major-General Hampton to the frontier, whilst Major-General Wilkinson, in co-operation, embarked with ten thousand men, on Lake Ontario, and proceeded in boats down the river St. Lawrence, with the intention of reaching Montreal. On the 8th. of October, Major-General Hampton occupied with a considerable force of regulars and militia, a position on the Chateauguay river, near the settlement of the Four Corners. The American army crossed the line of separation between Lower Canada and the United States early on the 21st. of that month, surprised a small party of

Indians, and drove in a picket of sedentary militia, posted at the junction of the Ontard and Chateauguay rivers, where it encamped, and proceeded in establishing a road of communication with its last position, for the purpose of bringing forward its artillery. All arrangements having been completed on the 24th., the American General commenced on the following day his operations against the advanced posts of the British; at about eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the 26th. of October, his cavalry and light infantry were discovered advancing on both banks of the Chateauguay, by a detachment covering a working party of *habitans* employed in felling timber, for the purpose of constructing *abattis*.

Lieutenant-Colonel De Salaberry, who had the command of the advanced pickets, composed of the light infantry company of the Canadian Fencibles, and two companies of Voltigeurs, on the north side of the river, made so excellent a disposition of his small force, that he checked the advance of the principal column, led by Major-General Hampton in person, and accompanied by Brigadier-General Izard; whilst the American light brigade, under Colonel M'Carty, was similarly repulsed in its progress on the south side of the river, by the spirited advance of the right flank company of the third battalion of the embodied militia, under Captain Daly, supported by Captain Bruyer's company of Chateauguay Chasseurs. Captains Daly and Bruyer being wounded, (the former twice severely,) and their companies having sustained some loss, their position was immediately taken up by a flank company of the first battalion of embodied militia. The American troops rallied and repeatedly returned to the attack, but were foiled at all points by a handful of men, who by their determined bravery, maintained their position, and protected the working parties, who were enabled to continue their labours.

Nearly all the British troops having been pushed forward for the defence of Upper Canada, that of the lower province depended in a great degree on the valour and exertions of its incorporated battalions and its sedentary militia. This loyal and honourable line of conduct was persevered in by the Canadians.

It appeared by the report of prisoners taken in the affair

on the Chateauguay, that the American forces consisted of seven thousand infantry and two hundred cavalry, with ten field-pieces. The British advance force, actually engaged, did not exceed three hundred, and the enemy suffered severely, not only from the British fire, but also from their own, some detached corps in the woods having fired upon each other.

Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, Bart., solicited from His Royal Highness the Prince Regent five pair of colours for the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth battalions of the embodied battalions of the Canadian militia, as a mark of royal approbation of their conduct.

The loss of the British was but small:—Canadian Fencible infantry, light company, three rank and file killed; one sergeant and three rank and file wounded. Third battalion embodied militia, flank company, two rank and file killed; one captain, and six rank and file wounded, and four rank and file missing. Chateauguay Chasseurs, one captain wounded.

A medal was granted for this service, which was similar to that authorized for the Peninsular actions, and it was afterwards commemorated by a bar, when the general war medal was distributed.

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## PASSAGE OF THE NIVELLE.

10TH. NOVEMBER, 1813.

AFTER the fall of St. Sebastian, the hostile armies remained for some time inactive, or occupied only in strengthening their respective positions, and preparing for the further prosecution of the campaign. The troops, however, suffered severely from the inclemency of the weather. Exposed on the bleak summits of the Pyrenees, they gazed with intense longing on the beautiful plains of France, which lay stretched out beneath their feet; but the close neighbourhood of a watchful enemy rendered the greatest vigilance necessary, and the duties were severe.

Flushed with success the British troops ardently longed for further victories. This moment at length arrived. Early on the morning of the 7th. of October, the army, under favour of a dark and stormy sky, descended from the heights, crossed the Bidassoa, and with little opposition established itself on

the French territory. The continued inclemency of the weather, and the badness of the roads, retarded the further advance of the army till the 10th. of November, when all preparations being completed, the columns moved down the passes of the Pyrenees in the most perfect silence, and lay down, each at its appointed station, to await the dawn of day to make their attack. This was commenced by the fourth division, which carried a strong redoubt in front of the village of Sarre, drove the enemy from that village, and continued its advance against the heights in its rear, exposed to the fire of entrenchments by which the position was secured. These, however, were successively abandoned as the division advanced, the enemy flying in great disorder, towards the bridges on the Nivelle; the garrison of one redoubt, which alone offered any resistance, being made prisoners. The other attacks were all equally successful; the enemy driven from the centre of his line, concentrated himself on the heights above St. Pé, whence he was dislodged by a flank movement of the third and seventh divisions on the left, in conjunction with the sixth division, which proceeded in the contrary direction. Marshal Soult at length withdrew the whole of his army, and resigned his position to the allies, who went into cantonments in advance of the Nivelle, where they enjoyed another interval of repose.

In the Marquis of Wellington's official report occurred the following; after speaking of the handsome attack of the sixth division, he continued, "I likewise particularly observed the gallant conduct of the 51st. and 68th. regiments, under the command of Major Rice and Lieutenant-Colonel Hawkins, in Major-General Inglis's brigade, in the attack of the heights above St. Pé, in the afternoon of the 10th."

The 43rd. and 52nd. regiments added to their former renown on this occasion, especially in the storming of the Petite Rhune, and in the completion of the victory.

Considering the strength of the positions attacked, and the length of time (from daylight till dark) during which the troops were engaged, the loss, although severe, was not so great as might have been expected.—Twenty-six officers, twenty-eight sergeants, four drummers, and two hundred and eighty-five rank and file killed; two generals, staff, (Major-Generals

Kempt and Byng,) one hundred and fifty-five officers, one hundred and thirty-two sergeants, twenty-five drummers, and one thousand nine hundred and sixty-six rank and file wounded. The enemy lost fifty guns, two thousand men, fifteen hundred prisoners, and large quantities of stores and ammunition.

Nivelle on the colours of the following regiments commemorates this service:—2nd., 3rd., 5th., 6th., 11th., 23rd., 24th., 27th., 28th., 31st., 32nd., 34th., 36th., 39th., 40th., 42nd., 43rd., 45th., 48th., 51st., 52nd., 53rd., 57th., 58th., 60th., 61st., 66th., 68th., 74th., 79th., 82nd., 83rd., 87th., 88th., 91st., and Rifle Brigade.

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### ACTION AT CHRYSTLER'S FARM.

11TH. NOVEMBER, 1813.

Major-General James Wilkinson, who had been instructed to co-operate with Major-General Hampton in the invasion of Lower Canada, and for the avowed purpose of taking up his winter quarters in Montreal, quitted Grenadier Island, on Lake Ontario, on the 30th. of October, 1813, with ten thousand men, in small craft and batteaux, and proceeded down the St. Lawrence. Having, on the 31st, halted a few miles below Gravelly Point, on the south side of the river, his position was on the following day reconnoitred, and subsequently cannonaded by a division of gun-boats, under the command of Captain Mulcaster, of the Royal Navy. By keeping close to his own shore, the enemy arrived, on the 6th. of November, within six miles of the port of Prescott, which he endeavoured to pass unobserved during the night of the 7th.; but the attempt was frustrated by the vigilance of Lieutenant-Colonel Pearson, who commanded there, and the American armada was compelled to sustain a heavy and destructive cannonade during the whole of that operation.

Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, having anticipated the possibility of the American government sending its whole concentrated force from Lake Ontario towards this territory, had ordered a corps of observation, consisting of the remains of the 49th. regiment, the second battalion of the 89th., and three companies of Voltigeurs, with a division of gun-boats,

the whole under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Morrison, of the 89th., to follow the movements of Major-General Wilkinson's army.

An attack was made at Chrystler's Farm, on the 11th. of November, 1813, upon the corps of observation, by a portion of the American force, under Brigadier-General Boyd, amounting to nearly four thousand men, which resulted in the complete repulse and defeat of the enemy with considerable loss, upwards of one hundred prisoners, with a field-piece, being captured; their total loss was estimated at eight hundred men. This action commenced about two o'clock in the afternoon, when the Americans, having moved forward from Chrystler's Point, attacked the advance, which gradually fell back to the position selected for the detachment to occupy, the right resting on the river, and the left on a pine wood, exhibiting a front of about seven hundred yards.

In consequence of the ground being open, the troops were thus disposed: the flank companies of the 49th. regiment, the detachment of the Canadian Fencibles, with one field-piece, under Lieutenant-Colonel Pearson on the right, a little advanced on the road; three companies of the 89th. regiment under Captain Barnes, with a gun, formed in *echelon*, with the advance on its left supporting it. The 49th. and 89th., thrown more to the rear, with a gun, formed the main body and reserve, extending to the woods on the left, which were occupied by the Voltigeurs under Major Herriot, and the Indians under Lieutenant Anderson. At about half-past two the action became general, when the enemy endeavoured, by moving forward a brigade from his right, to turn the British left, but was repulsed by the 89th. forming *en potence* with the 49th., and both corps moving forward, occasionally firing by platoons. His efforts were next directed against the right, and to repulse this movement, the 49th. took ground in that direction, in *echelon*, followed by the 89th.; when within half-musket-shot the line was formed under a heavy but irregular fire from the Americans.

Orders were next given for the 49th. to charge the gun posted opposite, but it became necessary when within a short distance of it, to check this forward movement, in



consequence of a charge from the American cavalry on the right, lest they should fall upon their rear; but they were received in so gallant a manner by the companies of the 89th., under Captain Barnes, and the well-directed fire from the artillery, that they quickly retreated, and by an immediate charge from three companies, one gun was gained.

About half-past four the Americans gave way at all points from an exceedingly strong position, endeavouring to cover the retreat by their light infantry, which were soon driven away by Lieutenant-Colonel Pearson. The detachment for the night occupied the ground from which the foe had been driven, and afterwards moved forward in pursuit.

The British loss was one captain, two drummers, and nineteen rank and file killed; one captain, nine subalterns, six sergeants, and one hundred and thirty-one rank and file wounded.

This action was also rewarded by the usual medal, and consequently a bar, inscribed "CHRYSTLER'S FARM," was authorized when the war-medal was granted. The force engaged consisted of the Royal Artillery, 49th., the second battalion of the 89th. regiment; Canadian Fencibles, Canadian Voltigeurs, and Militia Artillery and Dragoons, and Indians: of the latter, one warrior was wounded and three were reported missing.

No distinction has been granted for the colours, on account of either Chateauguay or Chrystler's Farm.

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## PASSAGE OF THE NIVE.

9TH. TO 13TH. DECEMBER, 1813.

AFTER the retreat of the French from the Nivelle, they occupied a position in front of Bayonne, which had, since the battle of Vittoria, been entrenched with great labour. The bad state of the roads, and the swelling of the rivulets from the fall of rain, had prevented the Marquis of Wellington from at once passing the Nive.\* The state of the weather

\* Whilst the British were in position on the banks of the Nive, in November, 1813, the French used to meet the English officers at a narrow part of the river, and chat over the campaign. One of the latter, in



and roads at length enabled the British commander to collect the materials and make preparations for forming the necessary bridges. The troops moved out of their cantonments on the 8th. of December, and Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, with the right of the army, crossed on the 9th. at and in the neighbourhood of Cambo, Marshal Sir William Beresford supporting the operation by passing the sixth division, under Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton, at Ustaritz; both operations succeeded completely. The enemy were immediately driven from the right bank of the river, and retired towards Bayonne, by the great road of St. Jean Pied de Port. Those posted opposite Cambo were nearly intercepted by the sixth division, and one regiment, being driven from the road, was compelled to march across the country.

On the morning of the 10th. of December the enemy moved out of the entrenched camp with their whole army, with the exception only of that portion which occupied the works opposite to Sir Rowland Hill's position, and drove in the pickets of the light division, when an action ensued, the brunt of which fell upon the first Portuguese brigade under Major-General Arch. Campbell, and upon Major-General Robinson's brigade of the fifth division, which moved up in support.

When night closed the French were still in great force in front of the British posts, on the ground from which they had driven the pickets. During the night they retired from Lieutenant-General Sir John Hope's front, leaving small posts, which were immediately driven in. About three in the afternoon they again drove in that officer's pickets, and attacked his posts, but were once more repulsed with considerable loss.

On the morning of the 12th. the attack was re-commenced by the enemy with the same want of success, the first division under Major-General Howard, having relieved the fifth division; the enemy discontinued it in the afternoon, and

order to convince them of the reverses of Napoleon in Germany, rolled a stone up in the *Star* newspaper, and endeavoured to throw it across the stream. The stone, unfortunately, went through it, which made it fall into the water. The French officer thereupon remarked, in pretty fair English, "Your good news is very soon damped."

retired entirely within the entrenched camp on that night. After the 10th. the attack was never renewed on the posts of the light division.

It was not until the 12th. of December that the first division, under Major-General Howard, was engaged, when the Guards conducted themselves with their usual spirit.

Having thus failed in all the attacks with their whole force upon the British left, the enemy withdrew into their entrenchments on the night of the 12th., and passed a large force through Bayonne; with which, on the morning of the 13th. of December, a most desperate attack was made upon the troops under Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill. In expectation of this the Marquis of Wellington had requested Marshal Sir William Beresford to reinforce the Lieutenant-General with the sixth division, which crossed the Nive at daylight on that morning; and a further reinforcement of the fourth division, with two brigades of the third, received orders to join Sir Rowland Hill. The troops under his immediate command had defeated the enemy with immense loss, before these succours arrived. Two guns and some prisoners were taken from the French, who, being beaten at all points, and having sustained considerable loss, were compelled to withdraw upon their entrenchment.

In a very interesting life of the late Viscount Hill, by the Rev. Edwin Sidney, A.M., is the following account of the action at St. Pierre, near Bayonne:—"This great service was thus performed by Sir Rowland Hill. The enemy, who had failed in all their attempts with their whole force upon Lord Wellington's left, withdrew to their entrenchments on the night of December 12th., and passed a large body of troops through the town of Bayonne. With these, on the morning of the 13th., they made a desperate attack on Sir Rowland Hill. This, as has appeared, was not unexpected; and Lord Wellington had placed at his disposal not only the sixth division, but the fourth division, and two brigades of the third. Soult's objects were to gain the bridge of St. Pierre, to make himself master of the road to St. Jean Pied de Port, and to break through the position of the allies. For these purposes he put forth his whole strength, and was

completely vanquished. Even before the sixth division arrived, Sir Rowland Hill had repulsed him with prodigious loss; and although he skilfully availed himself of a high ground in retreating, he could not stand against the famous charge of General Byng, and was entirely defeated. It was a battle fought and won by the corps of Sir Rowland Hill alone and unaided. At the instant of victory Lord Wellington came up, and in the ecstasy of the moment of triumph, caught him by the hand, and said, 'Hill, the day is your own.'"

The late Field-Marshal the Earl of Strafford, and Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, (then Major-General Byng,) highly distinguished himself in this action, wherein he led his troops, under a most galling fire, to the assault of a strong height occupied in great force by the enemy, and having himself ascended the hill first with the colour of the 31st. regiment of foot in his hand, he planted it upon the summit, and drove the enemy (far superior in numbers) down the ridge to the suburbs of St. Pierre, for which act he received the royal authority on the 4th. of July, 1815, to bear the following honourable augmentation, namely, "Over the arms of the family of Byng, in bend sinister, a representation of the colour of the 31st. regiment, and the following crest, namely, "Out of a mural crown an arm embowed, grasping the colour of the aforesaid 31st. regiment, and, pendent from the wrist by a riband, the Gold Cross presented to him by His Majesty's command, as a mark of his royal approbation of his distinguished services," and in an escrol above the word "Mouguerre," being the name of a height near the hamlet of St. Pierre.

From the 9th. to the 13th. of December, the total loss of the allies, British and Portuguese, amounted to thirty-two officers and six hundred and eighteen men killed, and two hundred and thirty-three officers and three thousand six hundred and seventy-four men wounded.\*

\* F. S. Larpent, Esq., the Judge Advocate-General of the British forces in the Peninsula, records in his Journal this characteristic anecdote, in reference to these casualties:—"Lord Wellington at dinner, on Sunday, directed some jokes at Major D—, who makes out the returns, because he wanted to make a grand total of wounded, etc., after the late five days' fighting. He laughed and said, all might go wrong from this innovation, but he was determined he would have no more grand totals, until he got another Vittoria without more loss; that the loss was always great enough, in all conscience, without displaying it in this ostentatious

NINE is borne on the colours of the following regiments:—16th. Light Dragoons, 1st., 3rd., 4th., 9th., 11th., 28th., 31st., 32nd., 34th., 36th., 38th., 39th., 42nd., 43rd., 50th., 52nd., 57th., 59th., 60th., 61st., 62nd., 66th., 71st., 76th., 79th., 84th., 85th., 91st., and 92nd. Foot, and Rifle Brigade.

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### BATTLE OF ORTHES.

27TH. FEBRUARY, 1814.

LITTLE rest was accorded to the Peninsular troops. The weather having improved, and the roads become passable, in the second week of February the Marquis of Wellington continued his victorious career. The sixth and light divisions were ordered to break up from the blockade of Bayonne, and General Don Manuel Freyre was directed to close up the cantonments of his corps towards Irun, and to be prepared to move when the left of the army should cross the Adour. Immediately after the passage of the Gave d' Oléron, by Sir Rowland Hill, at Villenave, on the 24th. of February, that general and Sir Henry Clinton moved towards Orthes, near which place the French army was assembled on the 25th., having destroyed all the bridges on the Gave de Pau.

At this period the third division of the British army was at the broken bridge of Berenx, five miles lower down the river, having the sixth and seventh divisions (then arrived under Marshal Beresford) on its left, while the remainder of the force was assembled in front of Orthes. On the 26th. the third division forded the river lower down, and a pontoon bridge was afterwards laid at Berenx, by which the fourth and sixth divisions crossed on the morning of the 27th., at which time the third division was already posted with skirmishers thrown out close upon the left centre of the French position. The sixth division was placed on the right between the third division and the river, and the light division on its left in rear as a reserve. During the whole morning there had been occasional skirmishing by the third division, but the real attack manner, and that he would not have every drummer and every officer, etc., killed or wounded in the last five days, all added up in one grand total; but that, at least, the croakers should have the trouble themselves of adding up all the different losses, and making it out for themselves."

commenced at nine o'clock by the third and sixth divisions on the French left centre, and the fourth and seventh divisions on their right, which last was intended to be the principal point of attack; but it having been found, after three hours' hard fighting, that the enemy were there too strongly posted, the Marquis of Wellington ordered an advance of the third and sixth divisions, with the 52nd. regiment, from the centre upon the left centre of the French position, which they carried and secured the victory;\* meanwhile Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, with the second division, had crossed the river above Orthes, and nearly cut off the only line of retreat open to the enemy, who then retired from the field, but without confusion, and constantly resisting the advance. The allies followed, keeping up an incessant fire and cannonade, but lost many men, particularly of the third division, which was the most strongly opposed; this continued until the French nearly reached the Luy de Bearn river, when their retreat became a flight, and they effected their escape by the fords and one bridge, which they destroyed, having lost four thousand men and six guns.

The allies, on the 27th. of February, had eighteen officers and two hundred and fifty-five men killed, one hundred and thirty-two officers and one thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine men wounded. In this battle the Marquis of Wellington was wounded.†

\* "This attack, led by the 52nd. regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Colborne, and supported on their right by Major-General Brisbane's and Colonel Keane's brigades of the third division, and by simultaneous attacks on the left by Major-General Anson's brigade of the fourth division, and on the right by Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton, with the remainder of the third division, and the sixth division, under Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton, dislodged the enemy from the heights, and gave us the victory."—*Wellington's despatch.*

† It is remarkable that the Duke of Wellington passed through so many battles unhurt: he had a narrow escape at Orthes. In the private Journal of F. S. Larpent, Esq., Judge Advocate-General of the British forces in the Peninsula, speaking of this battle, it is remarked that "it was curious that Lord Wellington and General Alava were close together when struck, and both on the hip, but on different sides, and neither seriously injured, as the surgeon told me who dressed them. Lord Wellington's was a bad bruise, and skin was broken. I fear his riding so much since has rather made it of more consequence, but hope the two days' halt here will put him in the right way again, as all our prospects here would vanish with that man."

"I walked down to the bridge with Lord Wellington yesterday, (6th. March, 1814,) and found him limp a little, and he said he was in rather

ORTHEs has been authorized to be borne by the following regiments:—14th. Light Dragoons, 5th., 6th., 7th., 11th., 20th., 23rd., 24th., 27th., 28th., 31st., 32nd., 34th., 36th., 39th., 40th., 42nd., 45th., 48th., 50th., 51st., 52nd., 58th., 60th., 61st., 66th., 68th., 71st., 74th., 82nd., 83rd., 87th., 88th., 91st., and 92nd. Foot, and the Rifle Brigade.

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BATTLE OF TOULOUSE.

10TH. APRIL, 1814.

THIs, the last general action of the Peninsular war, was fought on Easter Sunday, the 10th. of April, 1814. The town of Toulouse is surrounded on three sides by the Canal of Languedoc and the Garonne; on the left of that river, the suburb, which the enemy had fortified with strong field-works in front of the ancient wall, formed a good *tête-de-pont*. The city itself was only accessible from the south, and its strong though old-fashioned walls had been rendered more defensible by redoubts, and by an exterior line of entrenchments on a strong and rugged range of heights, about two miles in length beyond the canal. On the 28th. of March the enemy's troops were driven within the suburbs of St. Cyprien, and several attempts were made to attack them by crossing the Garonne above Toulouse. Operations were, however, impeded by the floods and rapidity of the river, until the 3rd. of April, when the third, fourth, and sixth divisions, with three brigades of cavalry, under Marshal Beresford, passed over by a pontoon bridge fifteen miles below Toulouse; but the crossing of the remainder of the army was again impeded by the rising of the river, which caused

more pain than usual, but it was nothing. At dinner yesterday, he said he was laughing at General Alava having had a knock, and telling him it was all nonsense, and that he was not hurt, when he received this blow, and a worse one in the same place himself. Alava said it was to punish him for laughing at him."

In "Recollections, by Samuel Rogers," recently published, there is a remark of Wellington's in allusion to the above circumstance:—"The elastic woven corselet would answer very well over the cuirass. It saved me, I think, at Orthes, where I was hit on the hip. I was never struck but on that occasion, and then I was not wounded. I was on horseback again the same day."

According to popular belief, the Duke of Wellington also had an escape at Salamanca.

the removal of the bridges, until the 8th., when the Marquis of Wellington crossed, and advanced within five miles of Toulouse; Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill, with two divisions, remaining on the left bank.

The Marquis of Wellington then fixed his plan of attack on the French position, according to which, on the left of the Garonne Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill was to menace the suburb of St. Cyprien, while on the right of the river the third and light divisions were to menace the northern front, driving the enemy's outposts within the canal, from its junction with the Garonne to the commencement of the range of heights at the hill of Pugade. A Spanish division was to carry that hill, and the fourth and sixth divisions, under Marshal Beresford, to carry the heights beyond it. On the 10th. of April, at about six o'clock in the morning, the battle commenced, and the different columns advanced according to orders. The third division on the right, next the Garonne, drove in the outposts of the enemy for above three miles, as far as the bridge of Jumeaux on the canal; this bridge was defended by a strong palisade *tête-de-pont*, too high to be forced without ladders, and approachable only on open flat. Six companies of the 74th., (three under Brevet-Major Miller, and three under Captain McQueen,) were ordered to attack this work, which they did in the most gallant style; but it was commanded from the opposite side of the canal, and was impregnable without artillery; the attacking party was therefore compelled to retire, after sustaining a most severe loss. The French then occupied the work in great force, and the continued efforts of the whole brigade could not dispossess them. The attack upon this work was unfortunately ordered by Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton, after the duty assigned to his division of driving in the outposts and menacing the enemy had been performed, although the impossibility of carrying the work without artillery had been represented.

Marshal Sir William Beresford crossed the Ers, formed his corps in three columns of lines in the village of Croix d'Orade, the fourth division leading, with which he immediately carried Mont Blanc. He then moved up the Ers in the same order,



over most difficult ground, in a direction parallel to the enemy's fortified position, and as soon as he reached the point at which he turned it, he formed his lines, and moved to the attack. The gallant efforts of Lieutenant-General Don Manuel Freyre upon the Pugade Hill did not meet with success, but they were highly applauded by the Marquis of Wellington. Meanwhile Marshal Sir William Beresford, with the fourth division under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir Lowry Cole, and the sixth division under Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton, attacked and carried the heights on the enemy's right, and the redoubt which covered and protected that flank; and he lodged those troops on the same heights with the enemy, who were, however, still in possession of four redoubts, and of the entrenchments and fortified houses. The badness of the roads had induced the Marshal to leave his artillery in the village of Mont Blanc; some time elapsed before it could be brought up, and before Lieutenant-General Don Manuel Freyre's corps could be re-formed and led again to the attack. As soon as this was effected the Marshal continued his movement along the ridge, and carried, with Major-General Pack's brigade of the sixth division, the two principal redoubts and fortified houses in the French centre. The enemy made a desperate effort from the canal to regain these redoubts, but they were repulsed with considerable loss; and the sixth division continuing its movement along the ridge of the height, and the Spanish troops pursuing a corresponding movement upon the front, the French were driven from the two redoubts and entrenchments on the left, and the whole range of heights were gained by the British.

In his despatch, the Marquis of Wellington added,—“We did not gain this advantage, however, without severe loss, particularly in the brave sixth division. Lieutenant-Colonel Coghlan, of the 61st., an officer of great merit and promise, was unfortunately killed in the attack of the heights; Major-General Pack was wounded, but was enabled to remain in the field; and Colonel Douglas, of the 8th. Portuguese regiment, lost his leg, and I am afraid I shall be deprived for a considerable time of his assistance.”



"The 36th., 42nd., 79th., and 61st. regiments lost considerable numbers, and were highly distinguished throughout the day.

"The fourth division, although exposed on their march along the enemy's front in a galling fire, were not so much engaged as the sixth division, and did not suffer so much; but they conducted themselves with their usual gallantry."

After these operations the French withdrew behind the canal, and thus ended this hard-fought but unnecessary battle.\*

The 5th. Dragoon Guards, 3rd. and 4th. Light Dragoons, 2nd., 5th., 7th., 11th., 20th., 23rd., 27th., 36th., 40th., 42nd., 43rd., 45th., 48th., 52nd., 53rd., 60th., 61st., 74th., 79th., 83rd., 87th., 88th., 91st., and Rifle Brigade, all display the word TOULOUSE, granted in commemoration of this battle, in which the total loss of the allies amounted to thirty-one officers and five hundred and sixty-four men killed, and two hundred and forty-eight officers and three thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight men wounded.

During the night of the 11th. of April, the French troops evacuated Toulouse, and a white flag was hoisted. On the following day the Marquis of Wellington entered the city, amidst the acclamations of the inhabitants. In the course of the afternoon of the 12th. of April, intelligence was received

\* The following statement gives the number of troops employed in Spain and the South of France, at the periods of the several actions mentioned.

Actions.	Number of Troops.			
	Present & fit for Duty.	Sick	On Command.	Total.
Roleia .....	...	...	...	14,871
Vimiera .....	...	...	...	18,903
Talavera .....	28,987	4,827	1596	35,410
Busaco .....	29,138	7,079	2526	38,743
Fuentes d'Onor .....	34,647	9,298	4912	48,857
Ciudad Rodrigo .....	37,014	12,392	4217	53,623
Badajoz .....	36,025	12,711	4433	53,169
Salamanca .....	38,531	13,891	5004	57,426
Vittoria .....	47,927	9,605	4294	61,826
Pyrenees .....	41,263	12,698	4916	58,877
Nivelle .....	45,104	13,658	4425	63,187
Nive .....	43,680	14,732	5007	63,419
Orthes .....	42,959	12,972	4690	60,621
Toulouse .....	42,807	12,907	5638	61,352

of the abdication of Napoleon, and had not the express been delayed on the journey by the French police, the sacrifice of many valuable lives would have been prevented. A disbelief in the truth of this intelligence occasioned much unnecessary bloodshed at Bayonne, the garrison of which made a desperate sortie on the 14th. of April, and Lieutenant-General Sir John Hope, (afterwards Earl of Hopetoun,) was taken prisoner. Major-General Andrew Hay was killed, and Major-General Stopford was wounded.

A treaty of peace was established between Great Britain and France; Louis the Eighteenth was restored to the throne of France; and Napoleon Bonaparte was permitted to reside at Elba, the sovereignty of that island having been conceded to him by the allied powers.

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### CAMPAIGN IN FLANDERS, 1815.

THERE was but a brief interval of peace after the battle of Toulouse. The triumphs of the Peninsula were not destined to give repose to Europe. Napoleon having learnt that at the Congress of Vienna it had been debated whether he should not be sent to St. Helena, (a measure opposed by the Duke of Wellington, and the idea relinquished,) and reckoning on the attachment of the French people, escaped from Elba, landed at Cannes, in Provence, on the 1st. of March, 1815, with a handful of men, and on the 20th. of that month entered Paris at the head of an army which had joined him on the road. Louis XVIII at once withdrew to Ghent, and Napoleon assumed his former dignity of Emperor of the French; the allied powers at once refused to acknowledge his sovereignty, and determined to effect his dethronement. Preparations for war commenced, troops were assembled in the Netherlands, and the regiments which had been engaged in America were, on their return, immediately forwarded to the seat of war.

Britain had no selfish end in view in this great struggle, but sent her sons to battle in support of the rights of nations, and to secure herself from a military despotism. To those readers who would study the events of this short but momentous

campaign, no better guide can be recommended than Captain Siborne's elaborate account,—the work of a life-time, the perusal of which should be combined with repeated visits to his wonderful model of the battle of Waterloo, now in the United Service Museum. In this last success, Wellington, like a graceful actor, takes his leave of war, for this terminated his active military career. The right wing of the Duke's army, in and about Ath, was commanded by Lord Hill; the left, near Braine le Comte and Nivelles, was under the Prince of Orange; the cavalry, under the Earl of Uxbridge, (the chivalrous Anglesey,) was quartered about Grammont, and the reserve was in proximity to Brussels and its neighbourhood.

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### ACTION AT QUATRE BRAS.

16TH. JUNE, 1815.

NAPOLEON left Paris on the 12th. of June, and endeavoured by one of those rapid marches for which he had been so celebrated, to interpose his forces between the British and Prussian armies, and then attack them in detail. Information of this movement arrived at Brussels during the evening of the 15th. of June, and the Duke of Wellington caused the troops to be prepared to march. Pursuing their way through the forest of Soignies, Genappe, and along the road towards Charleroi, after a march of twenty-two miles, they arrived on the 16th. of June, at some farm-houses denominated Les Quatre Bras, where the main road from Charleroi to Brussels is crossed by another from Nivelles to Namur, and which served as the British communication with the Prussians on the left. Here the second French corps, under Marshal Ney, was developing a serious attack against that position with very superior numbers.

As the British regiments arrived at the scene of conflict, they were instantly formed for action. Considerable loss was sustained, but the repeated charges of the enemy were repulsed. On this day His Royal Highness the Duke of Brunswick fell bravely fighting at the head of his troops. In the Duke of Wellington's account of this action the 28th., 42nd.,\* 79th.,

\* "As the 42nd. regiment advanced through a field of rye, which reached nearly to the men's shoulders, a body of cavalry was seen approaching,

and 92nd.\* regiments were specially mentioned.

Speaking of one of the attacks of the French cavalry, Captain W. Siborne, in his "History of the War in France and Belgium in 1815," observes, "If this cavalry attack had fallen so unexpectedly upon the 42nd. Highlanders, still less had it been anticipated by the 44th. regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Hamerton, perceiving that the lancers were rapidly advancing against his rear, and that any attempt to form square would be attended with imminent danger, instantly decided upon receiving them in line.....Never, perhaps, did British infantry display its characteristic coolness and steadiness more eminently than on this trying occasion. To have stood in a thin two-deep line, awaiting, and prepared to receive, the onset of hostile cavalry, would have been looked upon at least as a most hazardous experiment; but with its rear so suddenly menaced, and its flanks unsupported, to have instantly faced only one rank about, to have stood as if rooted to the ground, to have repulsed its assailants with so steady and well-directed a fire, that numbers of them were destroyed—this was a feat of arms which the oldest, or best-disciplined corps in the world might have in vain hoped to accomplish; yet most successfully and completely was this achieved by the gallant second battalion of the 44th. British regiment, under its brave commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Hamerton.

which was supposed to be either Prussians or Flemings, but which proved to be French. The mistake was not discovered in time to complete the proper formation to receive the charge; the regiment, however, attempted to form square, and while in the act of so doing, the French lancers galloped forward with great impetuosity, being assured of victory when they saw the unprepared state of the regiment. The two companies of the regiment suffered severely; but the lancers were repulsed with loss. The enemy repeated the charge, apparently in full confidence of an easy victory; but the Royal Highlanders stood back to back, every man fighting on his own ground with determined resolution, until he fell, or overcame his antagonist, and in this manner the regiment repulsed a succession of attacks. When the enemy's ardour was cooled from repeated repulse and loss, and the attacks had become less frequent and less fierce, the regiment completed its formation. It had sustained a severe loss in killed and wounded: Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Robert Macara, K.C.B., had fallen, and the command of the regiment devolved on Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards Sir Robert Henry) Dick."—*Historical Record of the 42nd. Royal Highlanders.*

\* "The Duke, on this occasion, was very nearly overtaken by the French cavalry; and being obliged to gallop towards the 92nd. Highlanders, he called out to the nearest men to lie down in the ditch, when he fairly leaped over them."—*Captain Siborne.*

"In this attack occurred one of those incidents which, in daring, equal any of the feats of ancient chivalry; which make the wildest fables of the deeds of the knights of old appear almost possible; which cause the bearing of an individual to stand out, as it were, in relief amidst the operations of the masses; and which, by their characteristic recklessness, almost invariably ensure at least a partial success. A French lancer gallantly charged at the colours, and severely wounded Ensign Christie, who carried one of them, by a thrust of his lance, which, entering the left eye, penetrated to the lower jaw. The Frenchman then endeavoured to seize the standard, but the brave Christie, notwithstanding the agony of his wound, with a presence of mind almost unequalled, flung himself upon it, not to save himself, but to preserve the honour of his regiment. As the colour fluttered in its fall, the Frenchman tore off a portion of the silk with the point of his lance; but he was not permitted to bear the fragment beyond the ranks. Both shot and bayoneted by the nearest of the soldiers of the 44th., he was borne to the earth, paying with the sacrifice of his life for his display of unavailing bravery."

The British cavalry and the remainder of the army arrived at the scene of action during the night.

Regiments engaged.	KILLED.		WOUNDED.	
	Officers	Non-com. Off. & Men.	Officers	Non-com. Off. & Men.
Royal Artillery .....		9	2	17
1st. Foot Guards, 2nd. battalion	2	23	4	256
"          3rd.      "	1	20	6	235
2nd.      "          2nd.      "				7
3rd.      "          2nd.      "				18
30th. Regiment, 2nd. battalion...		5	2	67
33rd.      "          .....	3	16	7	110
69th.      "          2nd. battalion...	1	37	4	44
73rd.      "          2nd.      "		4	4	60
28th.      "          1st.      "		11	4	153
32nd.      "          1st.      "	1	21	21	258
79th.      "          1st.      "	1	28	16	51
95th.      "          1st.      "	1	8	4	180
1st.      "          3rd.      "	6	20	12	228
42nd.      "          1st.      "	3	42	15	94
44th.      "          2nd.      "	2	10	15	226
92nd.      "          1st.      "	4	35	21	
Total.....	25	289	137	2014

In the action at Quatre Bras the British troops sustained a loss of twenty-five officers killed, and one hundred and thirty-seven wounded; and in non-commissioned officers and men they had two hundred and eighty-nine killed, and two thousand and fourteen wounded.\*

Whilst the French Marshal was attempting to force this position, the Emperor defeated the Prussians at St. Amand and Ligny. During the night Marshal Blucher, finding himself so weakened by the severity of the contest, and the fourth corps not having arrived, determined to fall back and concentrate his army upon Wavre.

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#### ACTION ON THE 17TH. OF JUNE.

THIS movement of the Prussian commander rendered a corresponding one necessary on the part of the British, who retired from the farm of Quatre Bras upon Genappe, and thence on Waterloo on the morning of the 17th., at ten o'clock. No effort was made by the enemy to pursue Marshal Blucher, neither was there any attempt to molest the march of the British to the rear, although made in the middle of the day, excepting by following with a large body of cavalry, brought from the French right, the cavalry under the Earl of Uxbridge, who had taken up a position to cover the retrograde movement. The rear of the infantry and artillery having proceeded some miles along the great road from Quatre Bras through Genappe, the cavalry were withdrawn by brigades in succession, each brigade re-forming as soon as it arrived at a suitable position in the rear of the column. The enemy's cavalry advanced in great force; the main body of his army moved on Quatre Bras, and his advance guard began to press on the rear of the retiring troops. To check this movement, the 7th. hussars charged a corps of French lancers in the town of Genappe; the lancers, however, having their flanks secure, presented an almost impenetrable row of pikes, and they were enabled to repel the charge. The attack was repeated by the hussars, but without making any impression; the French cavalry pressing forward, passed the ground occupied by the 7th., when the 1st. Life Guards were directed by the Earl of Uxbridge to

\* See table on opposite page.

charge the French lancers. Wheeling about, the Life Guards advanced to the attack, which proved irresistible, and the lancers were pursued through the streets of Genappe. After this repulse the retreat was continued with cannonading and skirmishing, until the cavalry arrived at the position of Mont. St. Jean, in front of the forest of Soignies, and near to the village of Waterloo.

About five in the afternoon the allies had taken up their prescribed position, and during the wet and disagreeable night, violent showers having fallen during the afternoon, and the rain continuing throughout the night, accompanied by cold and strong gusts of wind, so frequently a prelude to the Duke's victories, awaited the dawn of the memorable 18th. of June.

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## BATTLE OF WATERLOO.

18TH. JUNE, 1815.

THE position which was taken up in front of Waterloo, crossed the high-roads from Charleroi and Nivelles, its right being thrown back to a ravine near Merbe Braine, which was occupied; its left extended to a height above the hamlet of Ter la Haye, which was also occupied. In front of the right centre, and near the Nivelles road, the house and garden of Hougomont, which covered the return of that flank, was made available for defence, and in front of the left centre the farm of La Haye Sainte was put to a similar use. By the left a communication was maintained with Marshal Prince Blucher, at Wavre, through Ohain, who had promised that in case of an attack, he would advance in support with one or more corps as might be requisite.

On a range of heights in front of the British, were collected during the night the whole of Napoleon's army, with the exception of the third corps, under Marshal Grouchy, who had been detached to watch the movements of the Prussians. At about half-past ten on the morning of the 18th., a furious attack was made upon the post at Hougomont, occupied by a detachment from Major-General Byng's brigade of Guards, which was in position in its rear, and



it was for some time under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards Sir James) Macdonell, and subsequently under Colonel Home. It was maintained throughout the day with the utmost gallantry by these brave troops, although repeated efforts of large bodies vainly endeavoured to obtain possession of the place.

"About one o'clock a cart of ammunition, which had been sent for early in the day, was brought into the farm-yard of Hougomont, and proved most seasonable. The men had only time to fill their pouches, when a discharge of artillery suddenly burst upon them, mingled with the shouts of a column rushing on to a fresh attack. A cloud of tirailleurs pushed through the wood and corn-fields: they were aimed at with fatal certainty from the loopholes, windows, and summit of the building. But the enemy eventually compelled the few men that remained outside to withdraw into the chateau by the rear gate. In the meantime the French redoubled their efforts against it, and the fire of the immediate defenders of that point for a moment ceased. The gate was then forced. At this critical moment Macdonell rushed to the spot with the officers and men nearest at hand, and not only expelled the assailants, but re-closed the gate.\* The enemy, from their overwhelming numbers, again

\* A statement has frequently appeared in the newspapers, which was repeated after the decease of General Sir James Macdonell, G.C.B., on the 15th. of May, 1857, that five hundred pounds had been bequeathed to the bravest man in the British army, and that the two executors called upon the late Duke of Wellington, to give him a check for the money. As the story went, the Duke proposed that it should be given to Sir James for the defence of Hougomont, and that upon the money being tendered to him, he at first declined to receive it, but that ultimately he shared it with Sergeant-Major Fraser, of the 3rd. Foot Guards, now the Scots Fusilier Guards.

Having recently seen this statement again in print while these pages were in preparation, and Sir James Macdonell having about ten years ago mentioned to me that he had never received the money, I made further inquiries, from which I ascertained that Sergeant-Major Ralph Fraser is now a bedesman in Westminster Abbey. Considering that the above legacy might possibly have been since received, I called upon the sergeant-major, who lives at 18, West Street, Pimlico, and is now in his 73th. year, in order to ascertain the fact, and found that it had not. This gallant and intelligent veteran is in the full possession of his faculties, and, in addition to his having aided in closing the gate at Hougomont, can look with becoming pride on his having shared in the following services:—He was enlisted in the 3rd. Foot Guards in 1799, and was embarked for Egypt in 1801. In the landing at Aboukir Bay, on the 8th. of March of that year, the boat in which Corporal Fraser



entered the yard, when the guards retired to the house, and kept up from the windows such a destructive fire, that the French were driven out, and the gate once more was closed."

Such is the description given by Colonel MacKinnon, in his valuable "Record of the Origin and Services of the Coldstream Guards." Captain Siborne thus narrates the circumstance:—"The French, however, succeeded in forcing the gate; but the defenders betook themselves to the nearest cover, whence they poured a fire upon the intruders, and then rushing forward, a struggle ensued, which was distinguished by the most intrepid courage on both sides. At length Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonell, Captain Wyndham,\* Ensigns Gooch and Hervey, and Sergeant Graham, of the Coldstream Guards, by dint of great personal strength and exertions, combined with extraordinary bravery and perseverance, succeeded in closing the gate against their assailants. Those of the latter who had entered the courtyard fell a sacrifice to their undaunted and conspicuous gallantry."

Alluding to Sergeant Graham, he adds, "This individual deserves honourable mention, having greatly distinguished himself during the memorable defence of Hougomont. At a later period of the day, when in the ranks along the garden wall facing the wood, and when the struggle was most severe in that quarter, he asked Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonell's permission to fall out. The Colonel, knowing the character of the man, expressed his surprise at the request made at such a moment. Graham explained that his brother lay wounded in one of the buildings then on fire, that he wished to remove him to a place of safety, and that he would then lose no time in rejoining the ranks. The request was granted:

was contained sixty persons, officers included; all except fifteen were destroyed by the resistance of the enemy. He was present in the battles of the 13th. and 21st. of March; and in the expedition to Hanover, 1805; bombardment of Copenhagen, 1807: and from 1809 to 1814 in the Peninsula, being present at the capture of Oporto, battles of Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, (wounded in the leg and thigh,) sieges of Ciudad Rodrigo, Burgos, (again wounded in the leg,) Badajoz, and St. Sebastian; battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, passage of the Nivelle and Nive. He received, in addition to the Waterloo medal, that for the Peninsular war, with bars for Egypt, Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle, and Nive. Sergeant-Major Fraser was discharged in December, 1818.

\* The late General Sir Henry Wyndham, K.C.B.

Graham succeeded in snatching his brother from the horrible fate which menaced him, laid him in a ditch in rear of the enclosures, and, true to his word, was again at his post.

"Early in August of that year, and while the Anglo-allied army was at Paris, the Duke of Wellington received a letter from the Rev. Mr. Norcross, rector of Framlingham, in Suffolk, expressing his wish to confer a pension of ten pounds a year, for life, on some Waterloo soldier, to be named by his grace. The duke requested Sir John Byng (the late Lord Strafford) to choose a man from the second brigade of guards, which had so highly distinguished itself in the defence of Hougomont. Out of numerous instances of good conduct evinced by several individuals of each battalion, Sergeant James Graham, of the light company of the Coldstreams, was selected to receive the proffered annuity, as notified in brigade orders of the 9th. of August, 1815. This was paid to him during two years, at the expiration of which period it ceased, in consequence of the bankruptcy of the benevolent donor."

This attack upon the right of the British centre was accompanied by a heavy cannonade upon the whole line, which was destined to support the repeated attacks of cavalry and infantry, occasionally mixed, but sometimes separate, that were made upon it. In one of these the French carried the farmhouse of La Haye Sainte, as the detachment of the light battalion of the German Legion, which occupied it, had expended all its ammunition, and the enemy occupied the only communication there was with them. Repeated charges were made by the French cavalry upon the infantry, but these attacks were uniformly unsuccessful, and they afforded opportunities to the British cavalry to charge, in one of which Lord Edward Somerset's brigade, consisting of the Life Guards, Royal Horse Guards, and 1st. Dragoon Guards, highly distinguished themselves, together with that of Major-General Sir William Ponsonby, having taken many prisoners and an eagle.

These attacks continued to be repeated until about seven o'clock in the evening, when Napoleon made a desperate effort with the cavalry and infantry, supported by the fire of artillery, to force the left centre, near the farm of La

Haye Sainte, which after a severe contest was defeated. Having observed that the troops retired from this attack in great confusion, and that the march of General Bulow's corps upon Planchenoit and La Belle Alliance had begun to take effect, the fire of his cannon being perceived, and as Marshal Prince Blucher had joined in person with a corps of his army to the left of the British line by Ohain, the Duke immediately advanced the whole line of infantry, supported by the cavalry and artillery. The Anglo-allied army formed line, and with one impetuous charge decided the fortune of the day. The enemy was forced from his position on the heights, and fled in the utmost confusion. The pursuit was continued until long after dark, and then, in consequence of the fatigue of the British troops, which had been engaged during twelve hours, Marshal Blucher was left to follow the enemy, from whom he captured sixty pieces of cannon, belonging to the Imperial Guard, together with several carriages, baggage, etc., belonging to Napoleon. About one hundred and fifty pieces of cannon, with their ammunition, had been taken by the British, together with two eagles.

Sir Thomas Picton,\* the hero of so many Peninsular actions,

\* It is only recently that the remains of Sir Thomas Picton were removed to St. Paul's. In the *Times* of Thursday, May 5th., 1859, appeared a letter from W. Brewer, Esq., of 21, George Street, Hanover Square, stating that in the vaults of the burying ground on the Bayswater road, might be seen the thick chest or oak box, in which the remains of this general, as they were packed up in the village of Waterloo, and sent to England, were deposited. As these vaults were just closed by order of the Privy Council, and the brickwork to close in the coffins was at once to be commenced, this gentleman appealed to the country that the body of this illustrious warrior might be deposited in some distinguished mausoleum;—the result of this appeal was that the remains of this gallant general were removed on the 8th. of June, 1859, to St. Paul's, and the following account of the ceremony appeared in the *Morning Post* of Thursday, June 9th., 1859:—

"Yesterday morning, according to arrangement, the remains of the late Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton were removed from the cemetery belonging to the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, to St. Paul's Cathedral.

"The coffin was placed on a gun-carriage, drawn by eight horses. It was covered with a rich silk Genoa velvet pall with richly emblazoned armorial bearings of the late general, and with the union-jack. The procession was under the direction of the Royal Artillery. The first carriage contained Mr. J. Picton, the Hon. Colonel Vereker, Colonel Bagot, and General Wood. The second contained the Rev. Henry Howarth, rector of St. George's, Hanover Square, Mr. Stanley, and Dr. Brewer. In the third were Mr. Cooper, Mr. Westerton, and Mr. Treherne. Then followed the carriages of Lord Strafford, the Right Hon. Mr. Estcourt, the Home Secretary, Lord Gough, General Sir F. Stovin, Sir John Burgoyne, Sir Hew Ross, Sir Robert Gardiner, and Sir James Coleman.

fell, and Major-General the Honourable Sir William Ponsonby. The Earl of Uxbridge, after having passed unscathed throughout the day, lost his right leg by nearly the last shot fired, and His Royal Highness the Prince of Orange was wounded. Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Baron Alten, Major-Generals Sir Colin Halkett, Sir Edward Barnes, (Adjutant-General,) Fred: Adam, Sir James Kempt, and Cooke, and Colonel Sir William De Lancey\* (Deputy-Quartermaster-General,) were wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Fitz Roy Somerset (the late Lord Raglan) had his right arm amputated.

Vain would it be to select regiments on this glorious occasion. "It gives me the greatest satisfaction (so wrote the Duke to Earl Bathurst,) to assure your Lordship, that the army never, upon any occasion, conducted itself better. The

"Amongst the others who appeared as mourners was the Rev. Dr. Macnab, of Canada, representing his uncle, Captain Alexander Macnab, of the 30th. Regiment of Foot, who was aide-de-camp to General Picton, and who fell at the battle of Waterloo.

"The procession moved slowly through the principal streets to St. Paul's Cathedral. When the body reached St. Paul's Cathedral, some time was taken up in removing the ponderous mass from the gun-carriage, and bearing it up the steps on the south side into the cathedral. It was there met by the Very Rev. the Dean Milman, Archdeacon Hale, the Rev. W. Murray, and several other prebendaries and minor canons, who preceded the body to the crypt, where a vault had been constructed not far from the tomb of Wellington, the illustrious chief of the noble hero. At that moment the organ began to play the 'Dead March in Saul.' Followed by the old comrades of the illustrious general, the body was conveyed, in the most solemn silence, to the tomb, where it was received and lowered into the grave in the presence of Colonel Vereker, Mr. J. Picton, and a large number of private mourners. This having been done, the body was covered up, and the cavalcade re-formed."

\* Lady de Lancey, a sister of Captain Basil Hall, carefully attended her dying husband, Sir William de Lancey, in a peasant's cottage at Waterloo, for seven or eight days after the battle, in which he had been severely wounded, and, in fact, was at first returned as killed. In "Recollections, by Samuel Rogers," the following account is given by the Duke:—"De Lancey was with me when he was struck. We were on a point of land that overlooked the plain, and I had just been warned off by some soldiers, (but as I saw well from it, and as two divisions were engaging below, I had said, 'Never mind,') when a ball came leaping along *en ricochet*, as it is called, and striking him on the back, sent him many yards over the head of his horse. He fell on his face, and bounded upward and fell again. All the staff dismounted, and ran to him; and when I came up he said, 'Pray tell them to leave me, and let me die in peace.' I had him conveyed into the rear; and two days afterwards, when, on my return from Brussels, I saw him in a barn, he spoke with such strength that I said, (for I had reported him among the killed,) 'Why, De Lancey, you will have the advantage of Sir Condy in Castle Rackrent; you will know what your friends said of you after you were dead.' 'I hope I shall,' he replied. Poor fellow! We had known each other ever since we were boys. But I had no time to be sorry; I went on with the army, and never saw him again."

division of Guards, under Major-General Cooke, who is severely wounded; Major-General Maitland, and Major-General Byng, set an example which was followed by all; and there is no officer, nor description of troops, that did not behave well."

At Waterloo the Anglo-allied army consisted of sixty-seven thousand six hundred and sixty-one men, and one hundred and fifty-six guns;\* and the French had seventy-one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven men, and two hundred and forty-six guns, composed of fifteen thousand seven hundred and sixty-five cavalry, seven thousand two hundred and thirty-two artillery, and forty-eight thousand nine hundred and fifty infantry.

Both Houses of Parliament voted their thanks to the army with the greatest enthusiasm, "for its distinguished valour at Waterloo;" and the following regiments engaged, now bear the word "WATERLOO" on their colours and appointments, in commemoration of their distinguished services on the 18th. of June, 1815, namely, 1st. and 2nd. Life Guards, Royal Horse Guards, 1st. Dragoon Guards, 1st., 2nd., 6th., 7th., 10th., 11th., 12th., 13th., 15th., and 16th. Light Dragoons, Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, Scots Fusilier Guards, 1st., 4th., 14th., 23rd., 27th., 28th., 30th., 32nd., 33rd., 40th., 42nd., 44th., 51st., 52nd., 69th., 71st., 73rd., 79th., and 92nd., Foot, Rifle Brigade, and Royal Artillery. Every subaltern officer and soldier present in this battle, or in either of the actions immediately preceding it, received permission to count two years additional service.

The oft-mooted question as to the share taken in this momentous contest by the Prussians, and to their presence on the field in gaining the victory, must be met by the Duke's opinion, as expressed in his despatch:—"I should not do justice

	Cav.	Art.	Guns.	Infantry.
* British .....	5843	2967	78	15,181
King's German Legion .....	1997	526	18	3,301
Hanoverians .....	497	465	12	10,258
Brunswickers .....	866	510	16	4,586
Nassauers .....				2,880
Dutch Belgians .....	3205	1177	32	13,402
Total .....	12408	5645	156	49,608

to my own feelings, or to Marshal Blucher and the Prussian army, if I did not attribute the successful result of this arduous day to the cordial and timely assistance I received from them. The operation of General Bulow upon the enemy's flank was a most decisive one; and, even if I had not found myself in a situation to make the attack which produced the final result, it would have forced the enemy to retire if his attacks should have failed, and would have prevented him from taking advantage of them if they should unfortunately have succeeded." There are, however, even now, some prejudiced people, who exclaim, like Solomon Probity, in "The Chimney Corner," "Don't tell me! it was Blucher as won Waterloo."

One very prevailing idea that Wellington gave out the words "Up, Guards, and at them!" is not borne out by fact, for it was afterwards ascertained from the Duke himself that he did not;\* and another, the meeting of His Grace and Marshal Blucher at La Belle Alliance, after the battle, is equally apocryphal. This, however, is to be one of the designs of the House of Lords, and will therefore be handed down to posterity as a fact. In the concluding volume of the Wellington Dispatches, (page 332,) there is a letter to Mr. Mudford, in which occurs the following passage in reference to this and other mis-statements:—"Of these a remarkable instance is to be found in the report of a meeting between Marshal Blucher and me at La Belle Alliance; and some have gone so far as to have seen the chair on which I sat down in that farmhouse. It happens that the meeting took place after ten at night, at the village of Genappe; and anybody who attempts to describe with truth the operations of the different armies will see that it could not be otherwise. In truth, I was not off my horse till I returned to Waterloo, between eleven and twelve at night."

The following anecdote is illustrative of the effect produced

\* "The British soldiers were lying down in a ditch three feet deep, behind the rough road which there goes along the summit of the ridge. 'Up, Guards, and at them!' cried the Duke, who had repaired to the spot, addressing Maitland, who commanded the household troops," etc.—*Alison's History of Europe.*

by the irresistible attack of the Life Guards:\*—Immediately after the first charge, while the Life Guards were pursuing the French, three of their cuirassiers turned down a narrow lane, with a view of escaping that way, and they were pursued by Private John Johnson, of the 2nd. regiment. There proved to be no thoroughfare at the end of the road, when Johnson, though alone, attacked the three, and, after a slight resistance, they surrendered themselves prisoners. Several instances of distinguished bravery displayed by individuals of the Life Guards, have been recorded; amongst others, Corporal Shaw and Private Godley, of the 2nd. regiment. The former for his great prowess, and the number of cuirassiers he slew; and the latter for a distinguished act of bravery, namely, when his horse was killed, himself wounded, and his helmet knocked off, bareheaded as he was, he attacked a cuirassier, slew him, and mounted his horse. Shaw was killed in the first charge. Godley lived several years after, and a stone was erected to his memory by his comrades in the burial-ground of St. John's Wood, London, with appropriate devices and inscription. During the engagement the Duke of Wellington came to the head of the 1st. regiment of Life Guards, and thanked the squadrons for their gallant behaviour.

Colonel Ferrier, of the 1st. Life Guards, before he fell had eleven times led his regiment to the charge. Several of these charges were made after his head was laid open by a sabre cut, and his body had been pierced by a lance.

During the heat of the conflict Captain Alexander Kennedy Clark, (now Lieutenant-General A. K. Clark Kennedy, C.B.,) commanding the centre squadron of the 1st. Royal Dragoons, having led his men about two hundred yards beyond the second hedge on the British left, perceived, in the midst of a crowd of infantry, the eagle of the French 105th. regiment, with which the bearer was endeavouring to escape to the rear. Against this body of men Captain Clark instantly led his squadron at full speed, and, plunging into the midst of

\* The Life Guards and Blues were without cuirasses at Waterloo; and the 1st. Foot Guards received the royal authority to be styled Grenadier Guards, to commemorate their having been victorious over the Imperial Guard.



the crowd, overtook, and slew the French officer who carried the eagle. Several men of the Royal Dragoons coming up at the moment of its capture, Captain Clark gave the eagle to Corporal Stiles, and ordered him to carry it to the rear. The corporal was afterwards rewarded with an ensigncy in the 6th. West India Regiment.

Another eagle, that of the French 45th. regiment, was captured by Sergeant Charles Ewart, of the 2nd. Royal North British Dragoons. This gained for the gallant sergeant an ensigncy in the 3rd. Royal Veteran Battalion.

The following is a remarkable instance of preservation:—Lieutenant George Doherty, of the 13th. Light Dragoons, besides being severely wounded in the head, was struck by a ball, which was stopped and flattened by the interposition of his watch. He had taken out his watch to remark the time, when the regiment was ordered to advance, and not being able to return it, he put it into the breast of his jacket, and thus, providentially, his life was saved.

In one of the charges made by the 28th. regiment at Waterloo, a flag belonging to the 25th. French regiment was taken by Private John O'Brien, of the eighth company, who the moment after received a severe wound, which ultimately occasioned the loss of his leg. The trophy, however, was preserved, and sent to Major-General Sir James Kempt, who commanded the division, when the regiment arrived at Paris.

One of the Duke's sayings has been preserved, and bears remarkably upon Waterloo; in the evening of that day he said to Lord Fitz Roy Somerset, "I have never fought such a battle, and I trust I shall never fight such another."

In the "Letters of Colonel Sir Augustus Simon Frazer, K.C.B.," commanding the Royal Horse Artillery in the army under the Duke of Wellington, edited by Major-General Edward Sabine, from which the above has been extracted, is this allusion to Waterloo:—"Never was there a more bloody affair, never so hot a fire. Bonaparte put in practice every device of war. He tried us with artillery, with cavalry, and, last of all, with infantry. The efforts of each were gigantic, but the admirable talents of our Duke, seconded by such troops as he commands, baffled every attempt."



There is some difference of opinion as to the exact time the battle commenced. In the "Life of Lord Hill," by the Rev. Edwin Sidney, A. M., occurs the following:—"In reading the various accounts of this battle, it is curious to observe the discrepancies as to the time it commenced. Lord Hill has, however, settled this point. On arriving in London the autumn after the conflict, he passed his first evening at the house of his friend Lord Teignmouth. 'Can you tell me,' said Lord Teignmouth, 'at what time the action commenced?' Lord Hill replied, 'I took two watches into action with me. On consulting my stop-watch after the battle was over, I found that the first gun was fired at ten minutes before twelve.'

Captain Moorsom, in his "History of the 52nd. Light Infantry," gives the following characteristic account of the commencement of the action:—"The night was wet and disagreeable, as usual before the Duke of Wellington's battles. As the morning broke, between four and five o'clock, Captain Diggle's company of the 52nd., and two or three companies of the 95th. Rifles, were sent into the enclosures of the village of Merbe Braine, with their front towards Braine-le-Leud. At twenty minutes past eleven a cannon-shot was fired. Diggle, a cool old officer of the Peninsula, took out his watch, turned to his subaltern Gawler, who was another of the same Peninsular mould, and quietly remarked, 'There it goes.' The leaders, in fact, had then opened the ball."

In the "Life of Lord Hill," before quoted, occurs the following account of the final struggle:—"Sir Digby Mackworth, who was on the staff of Lord Hill, has kindly communicated what he witnessed of his General's efforts at the grand crisis of the day. 'He placed himself,' Sir Digby states, 'at the head of his Light Brigade, 52nd., 71st., and 95th., and charged the flank of the Imperial Guard, as they were advancing against our Guards. The Light Brigade was lying under the brow of the hill, and gave and received volleys within half-pistol-shot distance. Here Lord Hill's horse was shot under him, and, as he ascertained the next morning, was shot in five places. The general was rolled over and severely bruised, but in the *mêlée* this was unknown to us for about half an hour. We knew not what was become of him; we feared he had been

killed; and none can tell you the heart-felt joy which we felt when he re-joined us, not seriously hurt.' When the tremendous day was over, Lord Hill and his staff again re-occupied the little cottage they left in the morning. His two gallant brothers, Sir Robert Hill and Colonel Clement Hill, had been removed wounded to Brussels; the party was, nevertheless, nine in number. A soup made by Lord Hill's servant, from two fowls, was all their refreshment, after hours of desperate fighting without a morsel of food. Lord Hill himself was bruised and full of pain. All night long, the groans and shrieks of sufferers were the chief sounds that met their ears. It was to them all a night of the greatest misery. The men whom the nations of Europe were about to welcome with acclamations, and to entertain in palaces, could only exchange sigh for sigh with each other in a wretched cottage. Such is war even to the winners. May a gracious God soon make it to cease in all the earth!"

The casualties amongst the officers of the British army, (including the King's German Legion,) amounted to one hundred and thirty-nine killed, five hundred and eighty-five wounded, and fifteen missing. The Hanoverian troops had twenty officers and three hundred and eight men killed, seventy-seven officers and one thousand two hundred and forty-four men wounded. The Brunswick troops had seven officers and one hundred and forty-seven men killed, and twenty-six officers and four hundred and thirty men wounded. The Nassau contingent had five officers and two hundred and forty-nine men killed, and nineteen officers and three hundred and seventy men wounded. Numerous as these casualties were, those of the French far exceeded them, amounting, according to the most correct calculations, to about thirty thousand.

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The following Return, prepared in the Adjutant-General's Office on the 13th. of April, 1816, shews the casualties of

REGIMENTS.	Killed.	Sergeants, Trumpeters, WOUNDED.		
		Died of Wounds.	Suffered Amputation.	Discharged.
1st. Life Guards . . . . .	25	3	2	
2nd. " . . . . .	15	7	1	5
Royal Horse Guards . . . . .	20	8	1	1
Total Household Cavalry	60	18	4	6
1st. Dragoon Guards . . . . .	24	8	1	2
1st. Dragoons . . . . .	74	18	1	7
2nd. " . . . . .	79	18	1	11
6th. " . . . . .	72	11	1	1
7th. " . . . . .	15	7	1	
10th. " . . . . .	13	7		
11th. " . . . . .	4	1		
12th. " . . . . .	43	4		
13th. " . . . . .	12	3	1	3
15th. " . . . . .	19	6	4	2
16th. " . . . . .	8		1	
18th. " . . . . .	18	7	1	10
23rd. " . . . . .	12	4	2	
Total Cavalry of the Line	393	94	14	36
Royal Artillery . . . . .	52	17	12	40
Grenadier Guards, 2nd. battalion	61	29	6	44
" " 3rd. battalion . . . . .	71	30	14	48
Coldstream Guards, 2nd. battalion	47	26	6	
3rd. Foot Guards, 2nd. battalion . .	39	47	12	21
Total Foot Guards	218	132	38	113
Royal Scots, (1st. Foot,) 3rd. battn.	21	20	7	1
4th. Foot, 1st. battalion . . . . .	14	23	2	
14th. " 3rd. " . . . . .	7	8		
23rd. " . . . . .	10	8	1	2
27th. " 1st. battalion . . . . .	83	34	16	48
28th. " . . . . .	29	17	9	3
30th. " 2nd. battalion . . . . .	36	25	4	1

each Regiment of the British Army on the 16th., 17th., and 18th. of June, 1815, and the disposal of the wounded.

Drummers, Farriers, and Rank and File.

WOUNDED.				MISSING.		REGIMENTS.
Transferred to Veteran or Garrison Battalions.	Rejoined the Regiment.	Remaining in Hospitals, in April, 1815.	Total.	Rejoined the Regiment.	Not since heard of supposed dead.	
	45		50	4		1st. Life Guards.
	44		57	35	63	2nd. " "
	51	1	62		17	Royal Horse Guards.
	140	1	169	39	80	Total Household Cav.
3	112	5	131	42	88	1st. Dragoon Guards.
4	55	9	88		3	1st. Dragoons.
4	67	4	105			2nd. " "
5	77	14	115	6		6th. " "
	84	10	102	10	11	7th. " "
	24	7	38	26		10th. " "
	13		14			11th. " "
	50	8	62			12th. " "
2	45	16	70	1	9	13th. " "
3	26	7	48	2		15th. " "
2	4	4	11			16th. " "
1	61	3	83			18th. " "
1	22	2	31	32	8	23rd. " "
25	640	89	898	119	119	Total Cavalry.
	126	1	196	5	3	Royal Artillery.
	197	26	302	10	38	Grenadier Guards.
	361	33	486	3	32	" "
	208	1	241	4		Coldstream Guards.
	96	19	195	17	2	3rd. Foot Guards.
	862	79	1,224	34	72	Total Foot Guards.
4	231		263			1st. Foot.
	99	1	125			4th. " "
	15		23	27		14th. " "
1	56	7	75	1		23rd. " "
9	236	1	344	9		27th. " "
10	115	44	198	3		28th. " "
2	109	52	193	26		30th. " "

REGIMENTS.		Sergeants, Trumpeters,			
		Killed.	WOUNDED.		
			Died of Wounds.	Suffered Amputation.	Discharged.
32nd. "	.	44	47	6	9
33rd. "	.	49	61	21	7
40th. "	1st. battalion	33	24	10	
42nd. "	.	47	11	8	20
44th. "	2nd. battalion	12	9	10	
51st. "	.	8	4	2	1
52nd. "	1st. battalion	14	33	10	3
69th. "	2nd. "	46	17	2	1
71st. "	1st. "	29	36	11	3
73rd. "	2nd. "	45	24		5
79th. "	1st. "	56	43	8	1
92nd. "	.	56	22	4	1
Rifle Brigade, (late 95th.)	1st. battn.	31	21		
"	2nd. battalion	27	22	16	15
"	3rd. "	3	4	1	
Total Infantry of the Line		700	513	148	121
KING'S GERMAN LEGION.					
1st Light Dragoons	.	24	4	2	
2nd. "	.	18	1		
1st. Hussars	.	1	1	4	
3rd. "	.	24	3		4
Total Cavalry		67	9	6	4
1st. Light Infantry Battalion	.	35	16	6	17
2nd. "	"	40	4		38
1st. Line Battalion	.	23	12	1	10
2nd. "	"	17	1	1	45
3rd. "	"	15	22		30
4th. "	"	17	6	4	
5th. "	"	37	6		18
8th. "	"	28	2		25
Total Infantry		212	69	12	183
Artillery		13	4	2	3
Total King's German Legion		292	82	20	190
General Total		1,715	856	286	506

## Drummers, Farriers, and Rank and File.

WOUNDED.				MISSING.		REGIMENTS.
Transferred to Veteran or Carlson Battalions.	Rejoined the Regiment.	Remaining in Hospitals, in April, 1816.	Total.	Rejoined the Regiment.	Not since heard of, supposed dead.	
9	213	63	347			32nd. Foot.
2	115	25	231	8		33rd. "
	105	8	147			40th. "
3	201	23	266	1		42nd. "
1	125	9	154			44th. "
	16	6	29	2		51st. "
	102	26	174			52nd. "
3	136	27	186	44		69th. "
	116		166	2		71st. "
2	143	39	213	6		78rd. "
17	214	94	377	1		79th. "
10	253	32	322	2		92nd. "
3	111	12	147		12	Rifle Brigade.
3	87	22	165	3		" "
	23	10	38			" "
79	2,821	501	4,183	135	12	Total Infantry.
	63	12	81		4	1st. Light Dragoons.
	45	5	51	1	1	2nd. " "
10	6		21	5	4	1st. Hussars.
10	92	3	112			3rd. " "
20	206	20	265	6	9	Total Cavalry.
3	51	19	112	14		1st. Light Infantry Bn.
2	38	31	113	18	3	2nd. " "
1	33	27	84	24	11	1st. Line Battalion.
		26	73		13	2nd. " "
2	19	20	93	11	8	3rd. " "
1	41	17	69		3	4th. " "
	51	6	81	63	11	5th. " "
1	30	17	75	14	3	8th. " "
10	263	163	700	144	52	Total Infantry.
33	10		52		6	Artillery.
63	479	183	1,017	150	67	Total German Legion.
167	5,068	854	7,687	482	353	General Total.

## THE WATERLOO MEDAL.

A MEDAL was struck for this victory, which was conferred on all present in the three actions of the 16th., 17th., and 18th. of June, 1815. In a letter from the Duke of Wellington to the Duke of York, dated Orville, 28th. June, 1815, His Grace wrote, "I would likewise beg leave to suggest to your Royal Highness the expediency of giving to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers engaged in the Battle of Waterloo a medal. I am convinced it would have the best effect in the army; and if that battle should settle our concerns, they will well deserve it." In a letter from His Grace to Earl Bathurst, Secretary of State for the War Department, on the 17th. of September, this passage occurs:—"I have long intended to write to you about the medal for Waterloo. I recommended that we should all have the same medal, hung to the same ribbon as that now used with the medals."

The Waterloo Medal has on the obverse the head of the Prince Regent, inscribed *GEORGE P. REGENT*; on the reverse is Victory, seated on a pedestal, holding the palm in the right hand, and the olive branch in the left. Above the



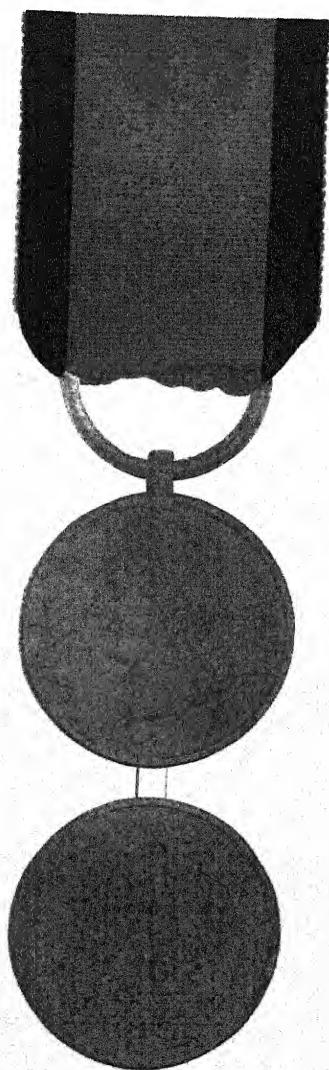
COIN OF ELIS, about 450, B.C.

figure of Victory is the name of the illustrious commander WELLINGTON, and under it the word WATERLOO, with the date of the battle, June 18th., 1815. This figure evidently owes its origin to the ancient Greek coin represented in the accompanying engraving. A specimen of the coin is preserved in the British Museum. The name, rank, and regiment of the

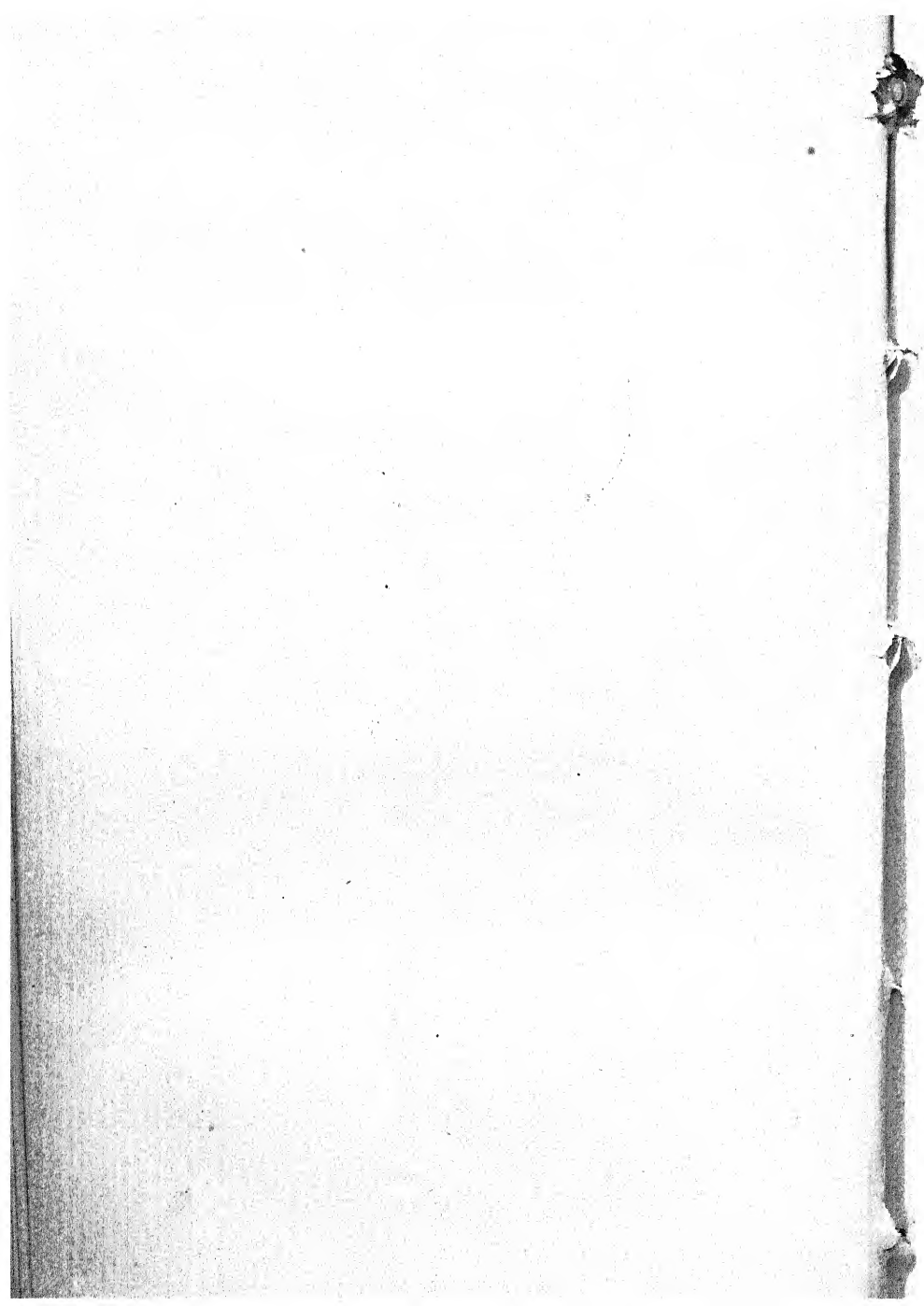








THE WATERLOO MEDAL.



officer or soldier were engraved round the edge\* of the medal, which was to be suspended from the button-hole of the uniform to the ribbon authorized for the military medals, namely, crimson with blue edges. In the "London Gazette," of the 23rd. of April, 1816, was published the following official notification:—

## MEMORANDUM.

"Horse Guards, March 10th., 1816.

"The Prince Regent has been graciously pleased, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, to command, that in commemoration of the brilliant and decisive victory of Waterloo, a medal should be conferred on every officer, non-commissioned officer, and soldier of the British Army, present upon that memorable occasion.

"His Royal Highness has further been pleased to command, that the ribbon issued with the medal, shall never be worn but with the medal suspended to it.

By command of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent;

FREDERICK, Commander-in-Chief.

H. TORRENS, Major-General and Military Secretary."

The distinction for Waterloo became the more valuable, from the fact that there was only one ribbon and one medal for all ranks of the army, from the Commander of the Forces to the youngest drummer.

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MEDAL FOR LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT.

King William the Fourth, on the 30th. of July, 1830, signified to the Secretary at War his command that discharged soldiers receiving a gratuity under the provisions of the Royal Warrant of the 14th. of November, 1829, should be entitled to wear a silver medal, having on one side of it the words

\* In an interesting paper, entitled "APSLEY HOUSE," which appeared in the "Quarterly Review," for March, 1853, descriptive of a visit to the late Duke's residence, the writer thus alludes to this medal,—“His own Waterloo medal, engraved ‘Arthur, Duke of Wellington,’ and much worn by use, with the ring cobbled and mended by himself, is indeed a relic.”

"For Long Service and Good Conduct," and on the other, in relief, the king's arms, with the name and rank of the soldier, and the year inscribed thereon. The medal was to be transmitted by the Adjutant-General to the officer commanding the regiment, who was to deliver it to the soldier on parade, with the parchment certificate of discharge, on which the grant was to be recorded, as well as in the regimental orders, and in the register of soldiers' services. When circumstances prevented the discharged soldier from receiving the medal at the regiment, the same was to be delivered to him through the Adjutant-General, at the Board of the Chelsea Commissioners. The men to be recommended must have completed a service of twenty-one years in the artillery, engineers, and infantry, and twenty-four years in the cavalry. Under special circumstances pensioners could be recommended by their former commanding officers for this distinction, but they were eligible only for the year in which they were discharged, and the application in their behalf had to be made within three years from the date of their quitting the service.

Since the introduction of this medal an improvement has been made in the issue; by the shortening of the qualifying period, where it was twenty-one to eighteen years, and where twenty-four to twenty-one years, the medal is now delivered to the soldier, in most instances, before discharge, and on parade by his commanding officer, thus enabling him to wear it during the remaining period of his service in the regiment. The names and services of the recipients are notified, as far as practicable, to the parishes to which they belong. East or West India service does not reckon as additional towards the Good Conduct Medal, and service under age is not allowed to be counted.

By a Royal Warrant, dated 16th. January, 1860, the grant of the medal for "Long Service and Good conduct," *without gratuities*, was in future to be extended to such soldiers as might fulfil the conditions previously required, but who were precluded from becoming recipients of the medal with a gratuity, in consequence of the aggregate amount to be annually awarded having been already appropriated. In addition to those already authorized with gratuities, it was directed

that the medal alone should be granted to such soldiers, whether sergeants, corporals, or privates, as might be selected for them, the same rule being observed as regards their qualifications, in the following proportion in each year, namely, —To each cavalry regiment and battalion of the military train, two; to each brigade of the royal artillery, three; to every nine hundred men of the royal engineers, three; to each infantry regiment or battalion, three.

Non-commissioned officers and men who might be qualified before discharge, were to be eligible to receive the medal without gratuity, if recommended by their former commanding officers within three years after their discharge.

Non-commissioned officers on the permanent staff of the militia who were eligible previous to their discharge from the army for the medal with gratuity, are also eligible to receive medals without gratuities, and no limit is placed on the grant as regards the date of discharge from the army in the case of men so serving. Their names have to be submitted by the officer commanding the militia regiment to which they belong, who is to prove their qualification by transmitting, with the recommendation, a statement of their army services, exemption from trial by court-martial, etc., according to the prescribed form, and certified by their former commanding officer. A record of the recipients of these medals is preserved in the office of the Secretary of State for War.

This medal is similar to that granted for "Distinguished Conduct in the Field," of which an illustration is given at page 165, of the Crimean section of this work, the words "For Long Service and Good Conduct" being substituted instead of "For Distinguished Conduct in the Field." The ribbon is crimson, like that for Meritorious Service.

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#### MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE.

By the Royal Warrant, dated 19th. of December, 1845, authorizing rewards for meritorious service, and for good conduct of non-commissioned officers and soldiers, it was ordered that a

"For Long Service and Good Conduct," and on the other, in relief, the king's arms, with the name and rank of the soldier, and the year inscribed thereon. The medal was to be transmitted by the Adjutant-General to the officer commanding the regiment, who was to deliver it to the soldier on parade, with the parchment certificate of discharge, on which the grant was to be recorded, as well as in the regimental orders, and in the register of soldiers' services. When circumstances prevented the discharged soldier from receiving the medal at the regiment, the same was to be delivered to him through the Adjutant-General, at the Board of the Chelsea Commissioners. The men to be recommended must have completed a service of twenty-one years in the artillery, engineers, and infantry, and twenty-four years in the cavalry. Under special circumstances pensioners could be recommended by their former commanding officers for this distinction, but they were eligible only for the year in which they were discharged, and the application in their behalf had to be made within three years from the date of their quitting the service.

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sum not exceeding two thousand pounds a year, should be distributed in granting annuities, as rewards for distinguished or meritorious service, to sergeants recommended by the Commander-in-Chief, either while serving or after discharge, such discharge not being anterior to the 19th. of December, 1845, with or without pension, in sums not exceeding twenty pounds, which are permitted to be held during service, and together with pension.

The sergeants selected for this honorary distinction are entitled to receive and wear a silver medal, having on one side Her Majesty's effigy, and on the other the words "For Meritorious Service," and the name and regiment of the sergeant, with the date of its grant; and they are not liable to the forfeiture of the annuity and medal, except by sentence of a court-martial, or by conviction of felony by a court of civil judicature.\* The ribbon is crimson, as shewn in the illustration at page 176.

By the Royal Warrant of the 4th. of June, 1853, the distinguished service rewards were extended from two thousand to four thousand pounds a year, by an annual progression at the rate of two hundred and fifty pounds a year; and by the warrant of the 4th. of December, 1854, in order to mark Her Majesty's sense of the gallantry of the army in the Crimea, it was directed that one sergeant in each regiment of cavalry

\* Medals granted for service in the field, as well as medals and gratuities, and medals and annuities, for good conduct, are forfeited by soldiers on conviction of desertion or felony, or being sentenced to penal servitude, or on discharge with ignominy. They are also liable to forfeiture by sentence of court-martial, on conviction of disgraceful conduct, or, in case of sergeants, on reduction to the ranks. Medals thus forfeited are transmitted to the Horse Guards, in order to their being returned to the Mint.

Under certain regulations lost medals are replaced; if the loss be proved to have occurred from carelessness or neglect, the loser may be recommended to the Commander-in-Chief for a new medal, at his own expense, after two years' absence from the regimental defaulters' book. In order to justify the replacement of a medal at the public expense, the loss must be shewn to have occurred while on duty, or by some accident entirely beyond the control of the loser; in all other cases, such as the loss of a medal cut from a tunic, or stolen from the person, the soldier has to pay for it himself. In cases wherein the clasps are not lost, they are forwarded to the Adjutant-General to be attached to the new medal. When medals are designedly made away with or pawned, the soldier is to be tried by court-martial, and, if convicted, put under stoppages, the amount being credited to the public. After five years' absence from the regimental defaulters' book, the offender may be recommended for a new medal, on again paying the value thereof.

and infantry, and of each battalion of Foot Guards and of the Rifle Brigade, serving under Lord Raglan, should be selected by the commanding officer, and recommended for the grant of an annuity not exceeding twenty pounds, provided that the aggregate of grants then made and to be made, did not exceed four thousand pounds in any one year.

Recommendations for the Meritorious Service Medal, with annuity, are addressed by commanding officers to the Military Secretary at the Horse Guards, accompanied by descriptive returns and records of services of the sergeants selected, whose names, if approved by the Commander-in-Chief, are submitted to the Queen, for Her Majesty's sanction.

A sergeant on becoming an annuitant, is required to relinquish the gratuity of which he may be in possession, making a declaration in writing that he does so voluntarily. The medal inscribed for "Meritorious Service" cannot be held together with that for "Good Conduct and Long Service;" but the latter must be surrendered on receipt of the former. Neither can two medals for "Distinguished Conduct" be held by the same individual, but a sergeant, on becoming an annuitant, must relinquish one of them. An annuitant may, however, hold the "Meritorious Service" medal, or that for "Good Conduct and Long Service," together with the medal for "Distinguished Conduct in the Field."

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#### THE CAPE MEDAL.

ON the 22nd. of November, 1854, a general order was issued, announcing that the Queen had been pleased to command that a medal should be prepared, "to commemorate the success of her Majesty's Forces in the wars in which they were engaged against the Kaffirs, in the years 1834-5, 1846-7, and in the course of the period between the 24th. of December, 1850, and the 6th. of February, 1853; one of which was to be conferred on every surviving officer, non-commissioned officer, and soldier of the regular forces, including the officers of the staff, and the officers and men of the Royal Artillery, Royal

Engineers, and Sappers and Miners, who actually served in the field against the enemy in South Africa, at the periods alluded to, excluding those who may have been dismissed for subsequent misconduct, or who have deserted and are absent."

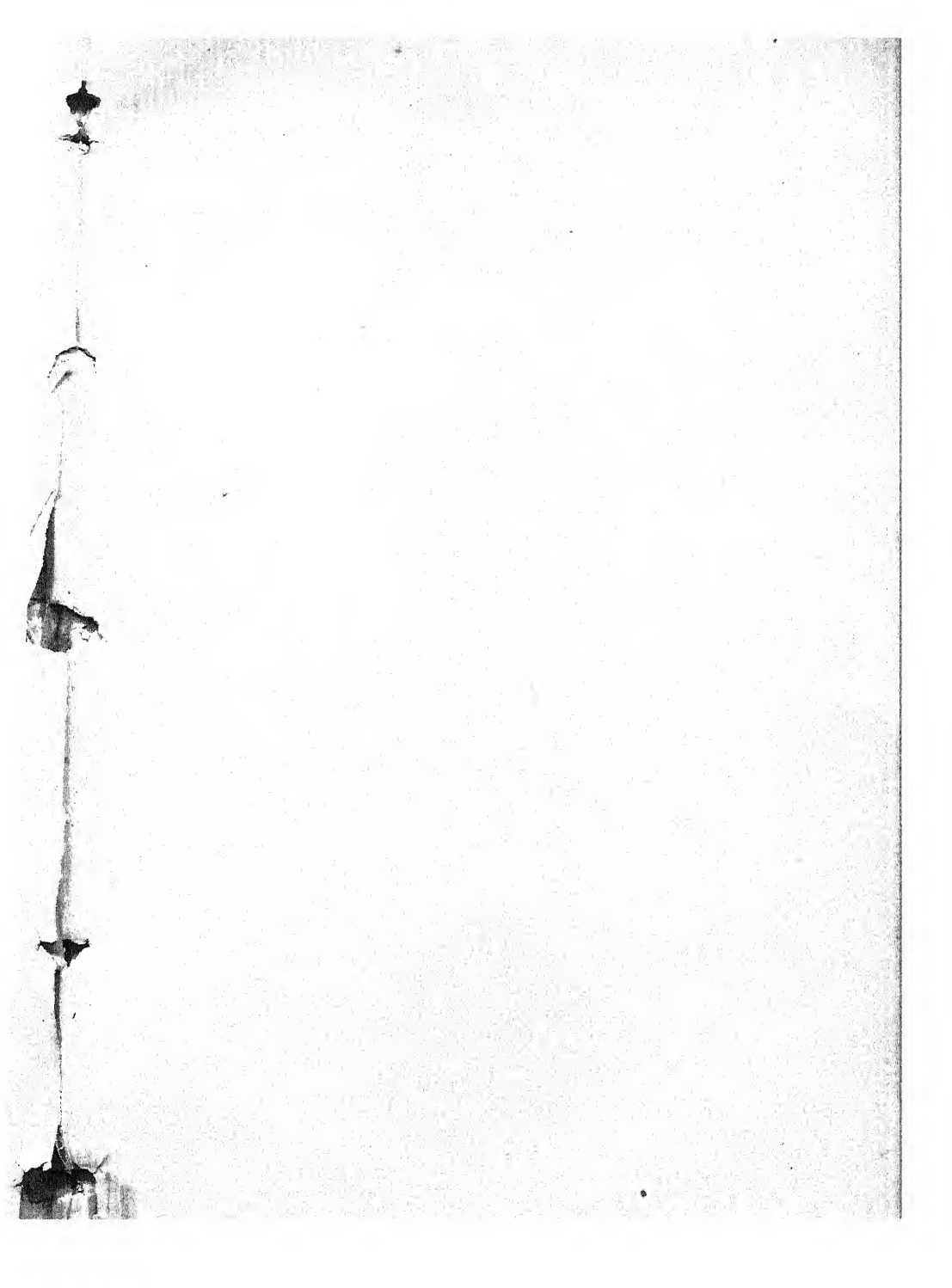
The obverse has the Queen's head, with the inscription VICTORIA REGINA, similar to the Crimean Medal. On the reverse is the lion crouching under a shrub, above which are the words SOUTH AFRICA, and beneath the year 1853. The ribbon is orange, with purple stripes.

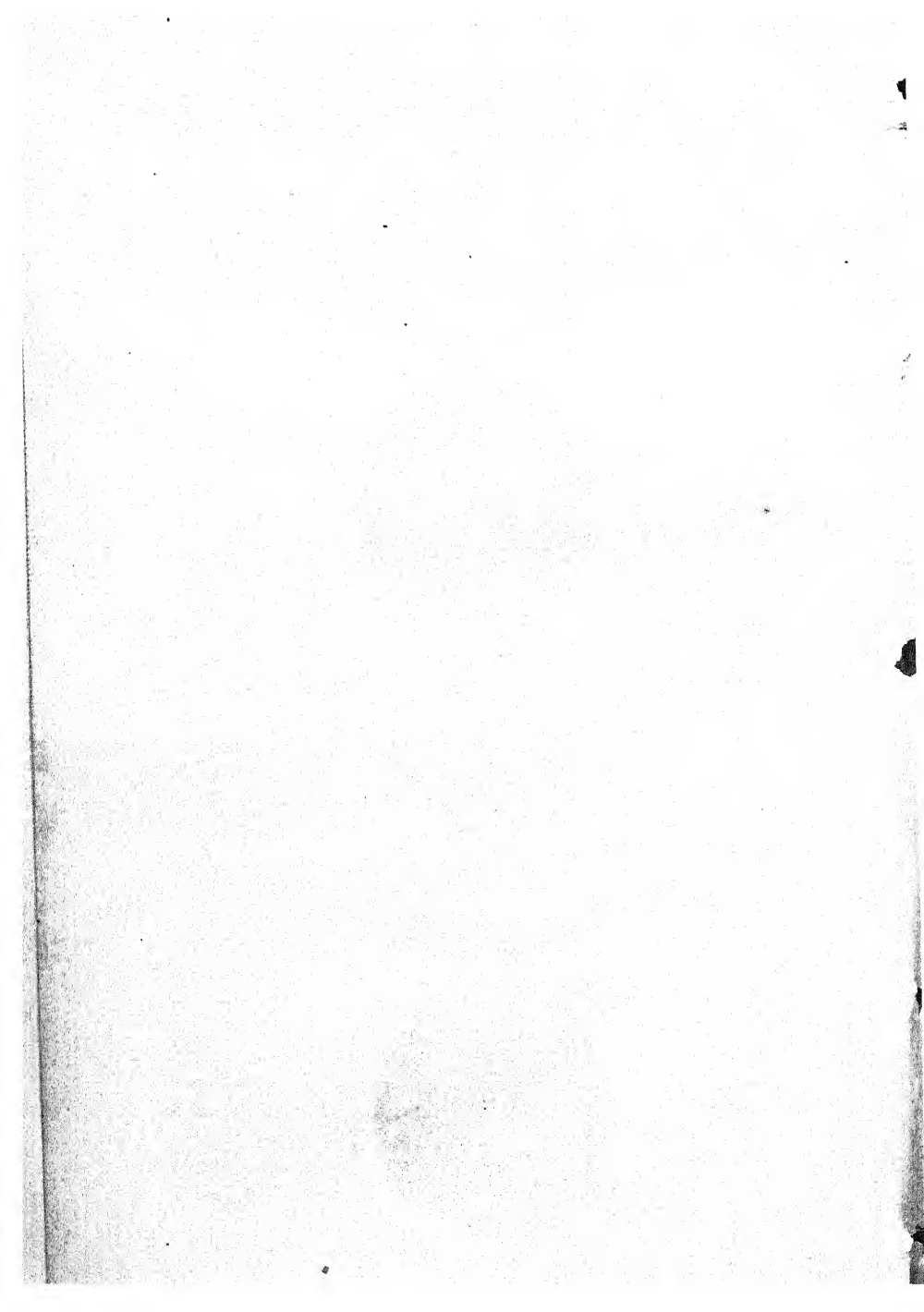
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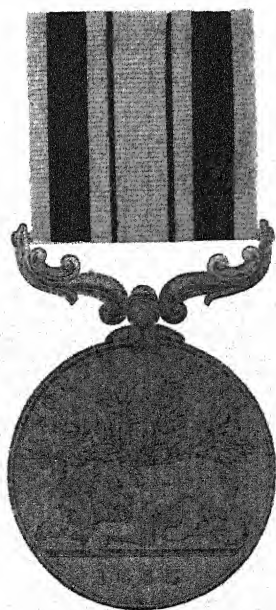
### CAMPAIGNS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

1834-5.

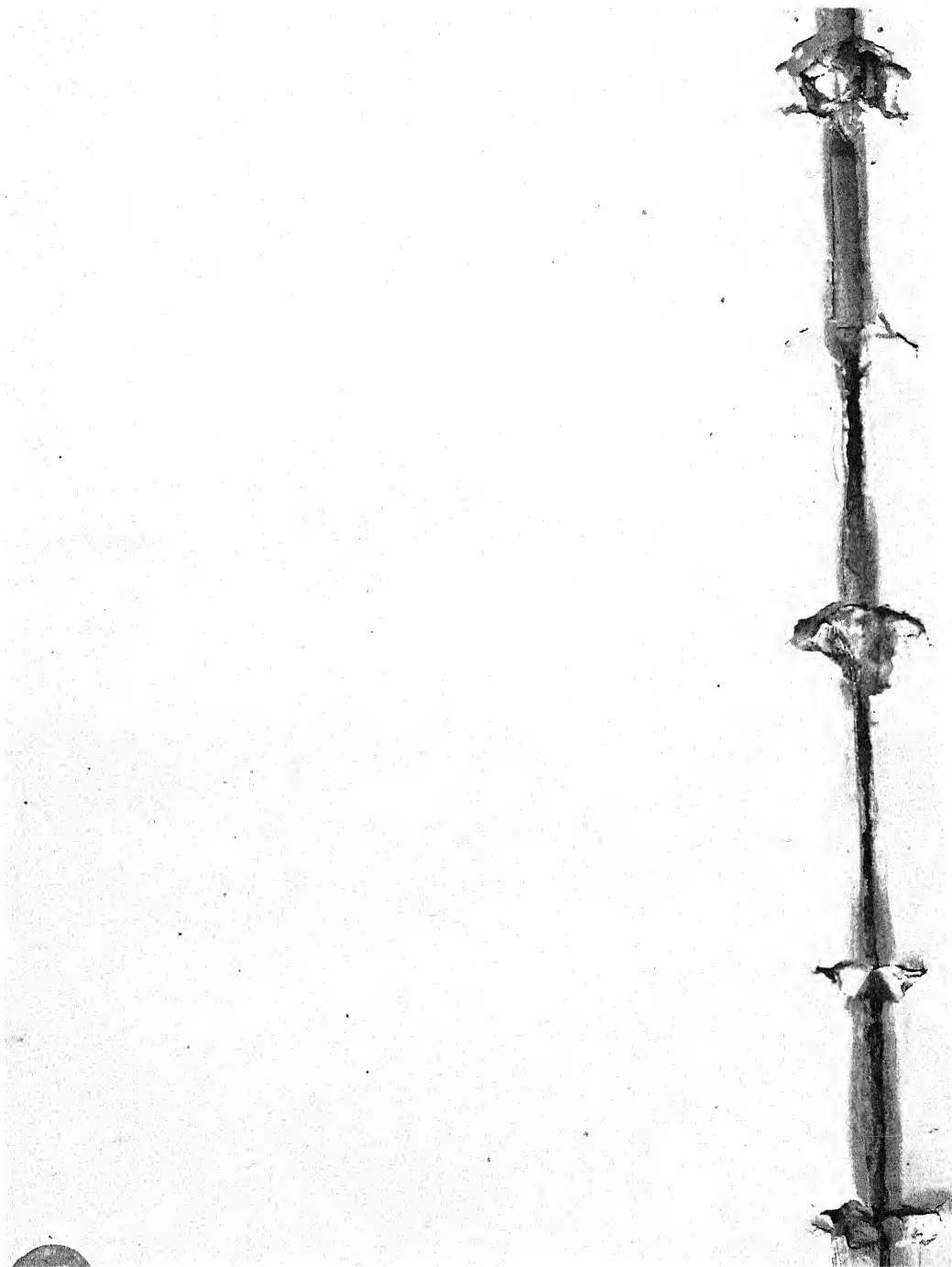
At length the aggressions of the Kaffir tribes, which were at this period divided into three nations, the Amapondas, the Tambookies, and the Amakosa, assumed a formidable and an atrocious character before unknown. The colonial boundary extended, on one side, to the Keiskamma; but a chief named Macomo had been permitted to reside within the British territory. Owing to some outrages committed by him and his followers on the Tambookies, he was deprived of the lands he held by sufferance in the British territory. His expulsion, however, was not strictly enforced until 1833, when he was removed beyond the boundary, and he became violently incensed against the government. The predatory habits of the Kaffirs also led to disputes when the British were searching for stolen property, and the lenity observed towards the aggressors, emboldened them to become more violent in their attacks. Towards the end of 1834, multitudes of Kaffirs rushed into the colony, and commenced the work of murder, rapine, and devastation by fire amongst the settlers. The ruins of once flourishing farms spoke of savage vengeance. Graham's Town was barricaded, and the houses turned into fortifications. Troops were ordered to the frontier, and preparations were made to carry hostilities into the heart of Kaffirland, to visit with necessary chastisement these aggressions, and to take measures to prevent the recurrence of similar outrages.







MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL.



The forces which were assembled for operations beyond the eastern frontier, were distributed into four divisions. The first division, (with which were the head-quarters of the Commander-in-Chief, Major-General Sir Benjamin D'Urban, K.C.B.,) was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Peddie, K.H., of the 72nd. Highlanders, and consisted of two guns Royal Artillery, detachment of Cape Mounted Riflemen, 72nd. Highlanders, first battalion Provisional Infantry, and the Swellendam Burgher Force. The second was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Somerset, K.H., and was composed of two guns Royal Artillery, Cape Mounted Riflemen, (head-quarter division,) the George, Uitenhage, and the Albany Burgher Forces. The third, commanded by Major Cox, of the 75th. regiment, consisted of two guns Royal Artillery, detachment Cape Mounted Riflemen, second battalion Provisional Infantry, detachment Swellendam Burgher Force, Beaufort Burgher Force, and the Kat River Legion. The fourth, under Field Commandant Van Wyk, consisted of the Somerset Burgher Force.

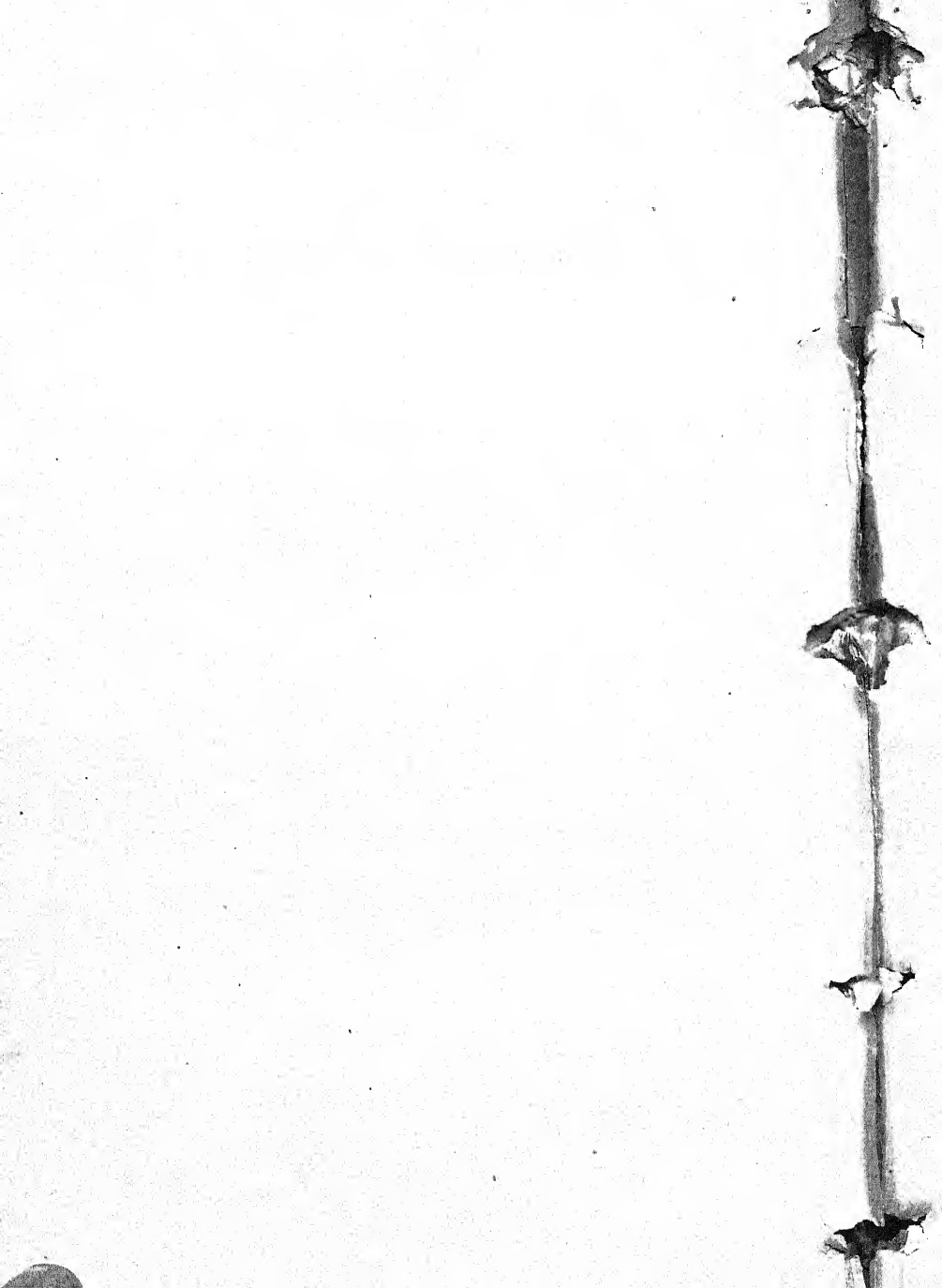
Colonel Smith, C.B., (afterwards the celebrated Sir Harry Smith, of Aliwal,) was appointed second in command, continuing at the same time in the performance of his duties as Chief of the Staff to the United Regular and Burgher Forces; on the 26th. of March, 1835, he led a well-directed inroad into the enemy's country; the Buffalo Mountains were penetrated, and the combined and successive operations in Kaffirland were eminently successful, numerous heads of cattle, the great wealth of the enemy, being captured.

On the 24th. of April, 1835, it was declared that the troops were in a state of hostility with the Kaffir tribes of the Chief Hintza, but it was decided that no kraals or huts should be burnt, and that the gardens and cornfields should be foraged in a regular manner.\* The operations of the troops were so successful that Hintza sued for peace, which was concluded personally with that chief by the end of the month.

To give some idea of the difficulties inseparable from these

\* At this period the Fingo tribes placed themselves under the protection of the British government; great care was ordered to be observed that they should not be taken for the enemy. Their warriors were distinguished from the Kaffirs, by carrying shields.





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campaigns, it may be sufficient to state that in the expedition beyond the mouth of the Bashee, Colonel Smith, with his force, composed of detachments of the 72nd., Cape Mounted Riflemen, and some colonial levies, in seven days marched two hundred and eighteen miles, overcame all opposition, crossed and re-crossed this large river, of very difficult banks, and brought off from its further side three thousand head of cattle, which had been plundered from the colony, besides rescuing from destruction a thousand of the Fingo race, who would have fallen a sacrifice to the Kaffirs.

The difficult and laborious service of conducting the British missionaries and traders, with their families and effects, (previously brought in from the Bashee by Captain Warden,) the Fingo nation, amounting to more than ten thousand souls, from the eastern side of the Kei, into the colonial border, was accomplished by Colonel Somerset, with the second division.

It is a singular fact that the tribes were found to possess many guns, but without ammunition, and strenuous exertions were used to prevent gunpowder being conveyed beyond the boundary of the eastern frontier by importers and retail dealers.

Major William Cox, of the 75th. regiment, made a very successful series of operations in the mountains of the Chumie, Amatola, and Keiskamma range during the end of July, and beginning of August, 1835, which resulted in an interview with Macomo and other chiefs, when a provisional cessation of hostilities was agreed upon.\*

During September some effectual excursions were made by Lieutenants Moultrie and Bingham, of the 75th., which caused them to be thanked in orders by the Commander-in-Chief at the Cape, (Major-General Sir Benjamin D'Urban, K.C.B.,) who also therein praised the cool and soldier-like conduct of Private Thomas Quin, of that regiment, on the 15th. of that month.

\* At this period the 27th. Foot joined. On the arrival of the regiment at Graham's Town, on the 8th. of September, a provisional battalion, consisting of four hundred Hottentots, divided into four companies, and officered by colonists, was attached to the corps. The 72nd. and 75th. regiments had similar battalions attached to them.

Peace was not finally concluded until the following year. On the 8th. of August, 1836, a despatch was received at the Cape, from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, communicating to the troops employed in the Kaffir war, that "It affords His Majesty high gratification to observe that in this new form of warfare, His Majesty's forces have exhibited their characteristic courage, discipline, and cheerful endurance of fatigue and of privations."—(Signed) GLENELG.

The 27th., 72nd., 75th., and Cape Mounted Riflemen, were the regiments employed during this campaign.

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1846—1847.

From the numerous outrages upon life and property that had for some time been perpetrated by the Gaika Kaffirs on the settlers located along the frontier, the Government declared war against them in the beginning of April, 1846. It had thus taken the initiative, but many of the Kaffirs themselves were anxious to go to war; accustomed from infancy to a marauding life, it had become second nature to them, and rather than be restrained in their predatory habits, they were willing to try the result of arms.

The force with which it was proposed to invade Kaffirland was organized into two divisions; one was placed under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Richardson, (now Major-General Richardson-Robertson,) of the 7th. Dragoon Guards, and consisted of the following detail:—Three troops of the 7th. Dragoon Guards, part of the reserve battalion of the 91st. regiment, two guns of the Royal Artillery, and one company of the Cape Mounted Riflemen. The second division was placed under the command of Colonel H. Somerset, of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, and consisted of one troop of the 7th. Dragoon Guards, two guns of the Royal Artillery, two companies of the 91st., and the head-quarters of the Cape Mounted Riflemen. The total strength of the British force, including cavalry, infantry, and artillery, did not amount to more than seven hundred men; whilst it was to be expected that the whole of the Gaika Kaffirs would join in resisting the invasion

of their country. There were supposed to be upon good authority nearly sixty thousand fighting men, a considerable portion being armed with muskets.

Captain Bambrick, of the 7th. Dragoon Guards, fell early in the operations, namely, on the 16th. of April, 1846. This officer in the eager pursuit of the Kaffirs, was decoyed into an almost impenetrable jungle, where a shower of balls was discharged at his party, and he was killed. Captain Rawstorne and Lieutenant H. D. Cochrane, of the 91st. regiment, were wounded, the latter dangerously. Of so entangled a nature was the bush, that several of the swords of the men were torn out of the scabbards by its thorny branches. Captain Sandes, of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, was killed three days afterwards.

Sir Peregrine Maitland arrived from Port Victoria in April, and a general order, dated Block Drift, 20th. April, 1846, was issued, in which he congratulated Colonel Somerset and the officers and troops under his orders, on the chastisement of the enemy, which closed the operations of the 18th. of April. The movement on Block Drift had been successfully effected by the combined force with little loss, in the presence of an enemy of many times its numerical amount, through a harassing country, and against persevering attempts to impede its march.

The Kaffirs were no longer the same foe as on former occasions, when they were chiefly armed with native weapons, but at this period they had become more formidable, from a great increase of numbers, a considerable mounted force, and especially through possessing fire-arms, an acquisition particularly adapted to their entangled country.

Some casualties were sustained by the 7th. Dragoon Guards, Royal Artillery, and Cape Mounted Riflemen, in skirmishes with the Kaffirs on the 6th. of May, 1846, at Kariega Bush, under Colonel Somerset, and in the Fish River Bush, near Trompetter's Drift, on the 8th. of May, by the troops under Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson.

Colonel Somerset, with the second division, after a series of successful movements, discovered and fell in with the enemy in two considerable bodies, on the 8th. of June, in the neighbourhood of the Gaika and Gwanga streams, when he attacked and routed them, killing two hundred, and capturing one hun-



dred firelocks, twenty horses, and large quantities of assagais, besides securing two prisoners. This was effected with a loss of two men killed, and three officers and sixteen men wounded. Captain Sir H. Darrell\* and Lieutenant Bunbury, of the 7th. Dragoon Guards, were wounded, the former severely. Captain Walpole, of the Royal Engineers, was also wounded.

It being considered desirable to amalgamate the troops and Burgher forces, which were assembling, they were formed into two divisions, the first under the orders of Colonel Hare, C.B., and the second under Colonel Somerset, K.H.

Immediately after the troops moving to Block Drift, the Kaffirs entered the colonies in large bodies, and committed great destruction of life and property. To impede the operations of the British, the enemy burnt the grass everywhere along the line of march, and from the long and unusual drought, it became so dry that they readily effected their object. Active operations were however brought to a successful termination in October, the Chief Sandilli, together with his brother, and eighty of his followers, having surrendered. The closing services were rendered the more arduous by the constant inclemency of the weather to which the troops were exposed. The columns of attack against Sandilli were commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Buller, of the first battalion of the Rifle Brigade, and by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, of the reserve battalion of the 91st. regiment.

Lieutenant the Honourable William James Granville Chetwynd, of the 73rd., and Captain Gibson, and Assistant-Surgeon Howell, of the Rifle Brigade, were killed near the Kei River, on the 11th. of January, 1847. Captain Baker, Lieutenant Faunt, Ensign Burnop, and Surgeon Campbell, of the 73rd. regiment, together with Assistant-Surgeon Loch, of the 7th. Dragoon Guards, were killed on the banks of the Kei, on the 13th. of November, following.

Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Smith, Bart., G.C.B., who

\* "The Colonel speaks in the highest terms of praise of the brilliant charge of Sir Harry Darrell's troop of 7th. Dragoon Guards, and the cavalry under Major Gibsons, upon the enemy's column, which was broken and scattered, ably aided by the Cape Mounted Riflemen, under Captain Napier"—*General Orders of Lieutenant-General Sir Peregrine Mailland, Commanding at the Cape, 10th. June, 1846.*

had highly distinguished himself in India, and had previously seen so much service at the Cape, was appointed Governor, High Commissioner, and Commander-in-Chief of the forces in the Colony, the duties of which he assumed on the 17th. of December, 1847.

During this long and protracted desultory warfare great fatigue and exertions had been undergone with the characteristic heroism of the British soldier, and the humanity and forbearance displayed by him towards the fickle, treacherous, and revengeful enemy, were as conspicuous as his bravery.

The following corps shared in this campaign:—7th. Dragoon Guards, Royal Artillery, Engineers, and Sappers and Miners, 6th., 27th., 45th., 73rd., 90th., and 91st. regiments; the Rifle Brigade (1st. battalion,) and Cape Mounted Riflemen.

Colonel Henry Somerset, of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, who had been serving as a Colonel on the Staff, Lieutenant-Colonel (now Sir Josias) Cloetè, Deputy-Quartermaster-General at the Cape, and Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. Mackinnon, were appointed Companions of the Order of the Bath. Majors William Sutton and George Thomas Conolly Napier, of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, received the brevet-rank of Lieutenant-Colonel; Captains Scott, 91st. regiment, Burnaby, Royal Artillery, Donovan, Cape Mounted Riflemen, Seagram, 45th., Browne, Royal Artillery, and Bisset, Cape Mounted Riflemen, that of Major in the army.

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1850—1853.

Some years of peace resulted, but the Kaffir tribes stifling their resentment for a time, became at length determined to venture again on hostilities. Sir Harry Smith hearing of their designs, immediately summoned a meeting of the chiefs, which was attended by several, but Sandilli, who was regarded as their king, did not appear, whereupon he was outlawed; this occasioned a general rising, and operations for the purpose of securing Sandilli were at once commenced in the Keiskamma River by Colonel Mackinnon, who left Fort Cox on the 24th. of December, 1850, with a force of six hundred men, composed of three hundred and twenty-one of the 6th. and 73rd. regi-



ments, one hundred and seventy-four of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, and about one hundred of the Kaffir Police. The Kaffirs attacked these troops in the Keiskamma defile, and it was with difficulty that he succeeded in reaching Fort Cox. Assistant-Surgeon Stuart, of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, was killed in action on the 24th. of December. Sir Harry Smith's position at Fort Cox, too, had become critical, being hemmed in by numbers of the enemy; while Colonel Somerset, in his endeavour to succour him from Fort Hare, had been driven back on the 29th., after a hard contest, in which the small body of regular troops made a gallant but unavailing resistance. Lieutenants Melvin and Gordon, (adjutant,) of the 91st. regiment, were killed in action on the 29th. of December.

The Governor at the head of a flying escort, escaped from Fort Cox, and arrived at King William's Town, at which place his head-quarters became established. Flushed by the advantages which the knowledge of their native fastnesses afforded the Kaffirs, and which made them almost a match for disciplined troops, they ravaged the country, and committed great depredations. It would be wearisome to detail all the skirmishes that occurred; the only warfare that could be adopted against an enemy who avoided concentration, or to encounter his opponents in open fight, was to continually harass them in their strongholds; but the force at the Cape was numerically insufficient for the contest. In these campaigns the great object was to carry on operations rapidly, and at a distant point, which made the fatigue excessive.

On the morning of the 3rd. of January, 1851, Fort White was attacked in force by the Kaffirs, in four bodies, but they were driven back, with great loss, by the garrison under Captain Mansergh, of the 6th. Foot.

A sharp action was fought, on the 21st. of January, between about six thousand Kaffirs, who hemmed in Fort Hare and the adjacent Fingo village of Alice, and the troops which garrisoned that post, under Major Somerset. The Fingoes were formerly held in subjection by the Kaffirs; but being relieved by the war of 1836, they afterwards proved friendly to the British, and behaved with great determination.

The troops, serving upon the frontier and in British Kaffraria,



were in February, 1851, formed into two divisions designated the first and second. The first was placed under Major-General Somerset, and the second under Colonel Mackinnon; and combined operations were carried out by these officers, in order to clear the Chumie Hoek of the enemy. Ensign and Adjutant Fletcher, of the 73rd., was killed in action on the 16th. of April.

About the end of May an insurrection broke out amongst the Hottentots in Lower Albany, and Major-General Somerset proceeded from Graham's Town with a portion of the 74th. Highland Regiment, which had recently arrived at the Cape. A desperate encounter took place on the 3rd. of June, and two days afterwards the stronghold of the insurgents was surrounded.

Major-General Somerset commenced his operations in the Amatola Mountains on the 26th. of June, 1851. The gallant attack made by the 74th., under Lieutenant-Colonel Fordyce, upon the enemy's position on the 28th. of that month, which was carried, received special commendation.

Colonel Mackinnon had proceeded from King William's Town on the 24th. of June, with a force of two thousand and fifty-five men, composed of three hundred and thirty-seven of the 6th. Foot, four hundred and twenty of the 73rd., forty-seven of the Royal Marines, one hundred and twenty of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, and the rest consisting of colonial levies. During the course of his operations the troops under Major-General Somerset were seen scouring the ridges between the Amatola and Wolf Valley. These combined movements harassed the enemy at all points and were fully successful. In September, a force proceeded under Colonel Mackinnon, to the Fish River Bush. The 2nd. Foot, on the 9th. of that month, sustained in these fastnesses a severe loss, Captain Oldham, four sergeants, and nineteen men being killed in action, and four corporals and nineteen privates wounded. During the month, this regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Burns, which had just arrived at the seat of war, lost five sergeants and thirty-two men killed and died of wounds.\*

\* "The conduct of the troops has well maintained the character of British soldiers, and the losses sustained by the 2nd. Queen's Royal Regiment, will stand prominent on the Regimental Records of the former achievements of this gallant corps.—*Cape General Orders.*

From the 14th. of October to the 8th. of November, 1851, the troops were employed in the operations in the Waterkloof. The plan comprised a series of attacks on the mountain fastnesses of the Kromme range, Waterkloof, Fuller's Hoek, and other heights, wherein Macomo determined to await the approach of the British. The scouring of the various ravines was carried out, the inclemency of the weather adding to the natural difficulties of the place. During these operations Captain Addison, of the 2nd. Foot, was severely wounded on the 14th. of October; on this day Lieutenant Norris, of the 6th. Foot, was killed, and Ensign Ricketts, of the 91st., died of his wounds in less than a month afterwards; and Lieutenant-Colonel Fordyce, the beloved commanding officer of the 74th., was killed on the 6th. of November.\* The regiment also lost Lieutenants Carey and Gordon, and several men.

Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre effected the passage of the Kei in December, 1851. Here occurred the first instance during the war of the enemy throwing obstacles in fords, and constructing breastworks; the Kaffirs ingeniously heaped large stones together in the river, and erected a number of stone

\* "At the moment he was hit, he was giving directions to a company of his own well-loved corps, which was skirmishing in the bush, and the position of which he wished to alter a little. Whilst raising his arm to indicate the ground he alluded to, a huge Hottentot stepped rapidly from a thick clump close by, and delivered the fatal shot; observing with characteristic cunning the irreparable mischief he had done, he screeched out, in hellish accents, "*Johnny, bring stretcher,*" and, turning on his heel, dived into the clump again before the infuriated 74th. could wreak their vengeance upon him.

"Simultaneously they madly rushed on, and, in their too eager haste to renew the carnage, they rendered themselves an easy prey to their savage foe, who struck down Lieutenants Carey and Gordon, and many brave men, before they observed the necessity of rallying, when the sad work of carnage was amply avenged. Such however, was the number of the wounded, that a waggon had to be sent from the hill to the spot to carry off the sufferers to their bivouac.

"Fordyce lived a quarter of an hour after receiving his death-wound. The ball had passed through his abdomen; and, as he was borne away in the consciousness of approaching death, he was just able to utter, in faint accents, the words—"Take care of my poor regiment—I AM READY," when he passed placidly away. Such was the end of this brave soldier. In life, straightforward, thoughtful, a friend to the poor and needy, and a truly Christian man; so in death he was calm, resigned, noble, and mindful of his duty both to God and man. His latest expression shewed that, while he committed his regiment to the care of those whose duty it was, his uppermost thoughts lay in the final work of meeting his Maker. Such was Fordyce, beloved and respected by all who had the good fortune to know him!"—*Operations in the Waterkloof, United Service Magazine, April, 1852.*

breastworks, one above the other, forming a somewhat formidable flank defence against musketry. The troops were six weeks in the field without a single blanket, and without tents. Lieutenant-Colonel Pole, of the 12th. Lancers, Lieutenant-Colonel Napier, Major Somerset, and Captain Bramly, of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, were specially noticed in general orders. Other operations followed, and the Kaffir chiefs of the Gaikas and Scyolo sued for peace, but declining to comply with the proffered terms, the troops, in seven columns, were directed to penetrate the Amatolas, and the country of Seyolo and other chiefs, on the left bank of the Keiskamma.

On the 1st. of January, 1852, Brevet-Major H. Eardley Wilmot was killed. In general orders this loss was thus referred to:—"In no officer in this army did His Excellency ever entrust a patrol with greater confidence of its success, relying upon his oft-tried courage, energy, and judgment, than he did upon the late lamented Major Wilmot." Surgeon Davidson, of the 43rd. regiment, was killed in a night attack made by the enemy, on the 14th. of February, upon an escort with provisions.

In March Major-General Somerset conducted operations in the Waterkloof, and Lieutenant-Colonel (now Major-General Sir John) Michel carried the Iron Mountain with the bayonet, despite a spirited opposition. Lieutenant-Colonel Perceval and Major Armstrong, in two divisions, on the 10th., attacked the strong position of the Chief Stock in the Fish River Bush, and after a sharp conflict, drove the enemy from every point. Lieutenant the Honourable H. Wrottesley, of the 43rd. regiment, was killed in action at Fuller's Hock, on the 11th. of March.

Reinforcements had been sent from England to the Cape, but, owing to the wreck of the Birkenhead, nine officers and three hundred and forty-nine men, out of fifteen officers and four hundred and seventy-six men (the total number embarked) perished.\*

\* Among the events connected with the Kaffir war, the loss of Her Majesty's Steamer Birkenhead, off the Cape of Good Hope, on the 26th. of February, 1852, is worthy of lasting remembrance. On that occasion, Lieutenant-Colonel Seton, of the 74th. (Highland) regiment, who commanded the troops on board the vessel, exhibited an example of the highest coolness and self-possession, and died at his post with the courage and resolution of a British soldier. A graceful tribute has been paid by

Attacks were also carried out by Lieutenant-Colonels Eyre and Perceval, (Macomo's den being carried by the former,) the result of which was that the Kaffirs were driven from all their strongholds in the Amatolas. Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre's pursuit of the enemy with his herds across the Kei, was pronounced by Sir Harry Smith to be one of the most enterprising and successful forays of the campaign, in which Major Armstrong, of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, and Captains Cureton and Oakes, of the 12th. Lancers, greatly distinguished themselves. Captain Gore, of the 43rd., was killed at Anta's Hold, on the 7th. of April, whilst leading his company on with the utmost gallantry.

Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir George Cathcart relieved Sir Harry Smith in the command at the Cape, in April, in which month five hundred Minié muskets were placed at the disposal of the troops in South Africa; these were equally distributed at six per company; the six best marksmen, being men of trust and intelligence, in each company were selected, and were termed "marksmen."

Major-General Yorke, (now Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Yorke, G.C.B., and recently Military Secretary at the Horse Guards,) a Peninsular and Waterloo veteran, commanding the second division of the army acting in British Kaffraria, having obtained reliable information as to the movements and position of the permanent Laager of the rebel Hottentots, who associated with the hostile Kaffirs, had committed great outrages, made his arrangements at the moment when they were all at home, for a combined attack on the Buffalo Mountains, with a portion of the 43rd. and 73rd. regiments, and other

the Queen to his memory, and that of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men who perished in the wreck. Her Majesty, desirous of recording her admiration of their heroic constancy and unbroken discipline, has caused to be placed in the colonnade at Chelsea Hospital, a tablet in commemoration of this event. Lieutenant-Colonel Seton called all the officers about him, and impressed upon them the necessity of preserving order and silence among the men, and caused it to be intimated to the soldiers by his sergeant-major, that he would be the last to quit the ship. Remaining at his post, *after having seen to the safe removal of all the women and children from the wreck*, he nobly met his fate. Such conduct merits every encomium, for true valour never appears in a brighter light than on these awful occasions, when the prospect of glory and the excitement of the battle-field are wanting. In the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Seton the country lost the services of a talented officer, possessing high scientific and professional attainments.

troops of the brigade of Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre. This disposable force proceeded from the post occupied by the latter in the centre of the Amatolas. A similar movement was made by a force consisting of parts of the 6th. and 60th. regiments, and certain levies, under Lieutenant-Colonel Michel, issuing from King William's Town. On the morning of the 20th. of June, the columns, one from the north and the other from the south, approached Murray's Krantz nearly simultaneously. The intricacies and difficulties inseparable from the rugged and densely wooded forests were surmounted; and although the enemy attempted a stand on several occasions, yet they were driven headlong over the Krantz with severe loss.

Forays still continued. Lieutenant-General Sir George Cathcart, in July, moved with three columns upon the Waterkloof; the enemy appeared in considerable numbers, but offered only a faint resistance.

In August, when Major-General Somerset was placed on the staff in India, Colonel (now Major-General Sir George Buller) was appointed to the command of the first division, and that of the first battalion of the Rifle Brigade devolved on Major (now Colonel Sir Alfred) Horsford.

A force of four guns and three thousand troops were collected in September, for the purpose of finally clearing the Waterkloof and adjacent fastnesses. Each night the troops bivouacked on the ground of their operations, and the following day pursued the arduous task of searching for, and clearing the forests and krantzes of, the enemy. Captain Hearn, of the 12th. Foot, was killed at Driver's Farm, on the 11th. of October.

This protracted struggle was now drawing to a termination; in November the troops marched into the Orange River territory, and on the 20th. of December were engaged with the Basutos, under their chief Moshesh,\* at the Berea. The contest

\* In the "Correspondence of Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir George Cathcart, K.C.B., relative to his military operations in Kaffraria, until the termination of the Kaffir War," the following conversation, on the 15th. of December, 1852, is given between him and Moshesh, which is a remarkable instance of diplomacy:—*Governor*.—I am glad to see you, and to make your acquaintance. *Moshesh*.—I am glad to see the Governor, as since his arrival in this country I have been expecting a visit from him, which his letter to me in October last led me to expect. *Gov.*—I told you in that letter that I hoped to meet you in peace, and I still hope so, as I look to you as the great chief in this part. *Mosh.*—I hope so too, for peace is like the rain

lasted from early in the morning until eight o'clock at night, when the enemy, with a force of about six thousand well-armed horsemen, under considerable organization, were defeated and driven from the field, after repeatedly assailing the troops at every point, with such severe loss, as to be compelled to sue for peace.\* Captain Faunce, of the 73rd., was killed; Ensign

which makes the grass grow, while war is like the wind which dries it up. You are right in looking to me, that is, in accordance with the treaties. Gov.—I will not now talk much, but wish to know whether you received my message yesterday, in which I made the demand of cattle and horses. I have nothing to alter in that letter. Mosh.—Do you mean the letter I received from Mr. Owen? Gov.—Yes Mosh.—I received the letter, but do not know where I shall get the cattle from. Am I to understand that the ten thousand head demanded are a fine imposed for the thefts committed by my people, in addition to the cattle stolen? Gov.—I demand but ten thousand head, though your people have stolen many more, and consider this a just award, which must be paid in three days. Mosh.—Do the three days count from yesterday or to-day? Gov.—To-day is the first of the three. Mosh.—The time is short, and the cattle many. Will you not allow me six days to collect them? Gov.—You had time given you when Major Hogg and Mr. Owen made the first demand, and then promised to comply with it, but did not. Mosh.—But I was not quite idle. Do not the papers in the commissioners' hands shew that I collected them? Gov.—They do, but not half of the number demanded. Mosh.—That is true; but I have not now control enough over my people to induce them to comply with the demand, however anxious I may be to do so. Gov.—If you are not able to collect them, I must go and do it; and if any resistance be made it will then be war, and I shall not be satisfied with ten thousand head, but shall take all I can. Mosh.—Do not talk of war, for however anxious I may be to avoid it, you know that a dog when beaten will shew his teeth. Gov.—It will therefore be better that you should give up the cattle than that I should go for them. Mosh.—I wish for peace; but have the same difficulty with my people that you have in the colony. Your prisons are never empty, and I have thieves among my people. Gov.—I would then recommend you to catch the thieves, and bring them to me, and I will hang them. Mosh.—I do not wish you to hang them, but to talk to them, and give them advice. If you hang them they cannot talk. Gov.—If I hang them they cannot steal, and I am not going to talk any more. I have said that if you do not give up the cattle in three days, I must come and take them. Mosh.—I beg of you not to talk of war. Gov.—I have no more to say. I must either leave this in peace in three days, or go to Thaba Bossiou. I therefore advise you to go and collect the cattle as quickly as possible. Mosh.—Do not talk of coming to Thaba Bossiou. If you do, I shall lay the blame on the Boers, from whom the cattle were stolen, and whom I requested to come and point out to me their cattle, that I might restore them. I will go at once, and do my best, and perhaps God will help me.”

\* Loss sustained in the action at the Berea—

Regiments.	KILLED.		WOUNDED.	
	Officers	Men.	Officers	Men.
12th. Lancers.....	...	27	...	1
43rd. Regiment .....	...	...	1	6
73rd. " .....	1	2	1	2
Rifle Brigade .....	...	3	...	...
Cape Mounted Riflemen.....	...	5	...	4
Total.....	1	37	2	13



the Honourable Hugh Annesley, of the 43rd., and Captain Edward Wellesley, of the 73rd. regiment, Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General, were wounded.

Hostilities shortly afterwards terminated, peace being proclaimed on the 12th. of March, 1853; the result of these exertions was the final clearance of the Waterkloof, Fish River, and all the other strongholds of the Kaffirs within the colony; the surrender of the chiefs Sandilli, Macomo, and the Gaika people, who had been expelled from all their former territories, including the Amatolas,—that troublesome race being removed to the banks of the Kei. The Basutos, Tambookies, and other tribes were completely subdued, and the Hottentot rebellion was extinguished.

In the words of Sir George Cathcart,—“The Field of Glory opened to them in a Kaffir war and Hottentot rebellion, is possibly not so favourable and exciting as that which regular warfare with an open enemy in the field affords, yet the unremitting exertions called for in hunting well-armed yet skulking savages through the bush, and driving them from their innumerable strongholds, are perhaps more arduous than those required in regular warfare, and call more constantly for individual exertion and intelligence.

“The British soldier, always cheerfully obedient to the call, well knows that when he has done his duty, he is sure to obtain the thanks and good opinion of his gracious Queen.”

These thanks were afterwards communicated to the troops, and Lieutenant-General the Honourable George Cathcart, and Major-General Henry Somerset, C.B., were appointed Knights Commanders of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath; and Lieutenant-Colonels William Eyre, of the 73rd. regiment, John Michel, of the 6th. Foot, Charles Cooke Yarborough, 91st. regiment, John Maxwell Perceval, of the 12th. Foot, and George Thomas Conolly Napier, late Lieutenant-Colonel of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, to be Companions of the above Order. Colonel Eyre was also appointed aide-de-camp to the Queen, with the rank of Colonel in the army.

The following officers were promoted for their services during the campaign:—Majors Pinekney, 73rd. regiment, Forbes, 91st., D'Arcy Kyle, 45th., Burnaby, Royal Artillery, Bisset, Cape

Mounted Riflemen, Horne, 12th. Foot, John Armstrong, Cape Mounted Riflemen, Bedford, 60th. Rifles, Tottenham, 12th. Light Dragoons, Phillips, 43rd., Alfred Horsford, Rifle Brigade, the Honourable Percy Herbert, 43rd., Holdich, 80th., (Brevet-Major,) and Carey, Cape Mounted Riflemen, to be Lieutenant-Colonels in the army; and Captains Maydwell, 41st., Honourable Robert Curzon, Grenadier Guards, Vials, 45th., Honourable Adrian Hope, 60th. Rifles, Campbell, 73rd., Thomas Addison, 2nd. Foot, Robertson, Royal Engineers, Mansergh, 6th. Foot, Lord Alexander George Russell, Rifle Brigade, Richard Tylden, Royal Engineers, Hancock, 74th., Wellesley, 73rd. Foot, Smyth, 2nd. Foot, Bewes, 73rd., Faddy, and the Honourable George Talbot Devereux, Royal Artillery, Robert Bruce, 74th., and Wright, 91st., to be Majors in the army. These commissions were dated 28th. May, 1853, except that of Captain Wright, which was the 26th. of February, 1852, the date of the wreck of the 'Birkenhead,' he being the senior surviving officer on board that vessel.

During this last campaign the troops employed were the 12th. Lancers, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, and Sappers and Miners, 2nd., 6th., 12th., 43rd., 45th., Royal Marines, 60th., (2nd. battalion,) 73rd., 74th., 91st., Rifle Brigade, (1st. battalion,) and the Cape Mounted Riflemen.

Although it has been found impossible to narrate in detail every incident in these campaigns, which consisted of constant patrolling in all directions, yet sufficient, it is considered, has been shewn to prove that the military power of Great Britain has scarcely ever had a more obstinate or prolonged contest with a savage or half-civilized race, than that waged against the Kaffirs, and that no medal has been more hardly gained than the one granted for the campaigns in South Africa.

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